SIMMONS MATTRESS GALLERY
VANCOUVER'S MATTRESS PROFESSIONALS
MATTRESS SHOPPING?
SAVE BIG!
SALE STARTS DEC 26TH

The world's largest global newspaper
metro
VANCOUVER • FRI. DEC. 26 2008-THURS. JAN. 1 2009 metronews.ca

BOXING WEEK SALE
DON'T MISS OUT!
SIMMONS MATTRESS GALLERY
VANCOUVER'S MATTRESS PROFESSIONALS

Celebrating Kwanzaa

TIM WIECLAWSKI/METRO CANADA

With the help of Jaku Konbit academy students in Ottawa, Ken Campbell lights Kinara candles on a table decorated with the symbols of Kwanzaa. Each of the candles represents one of the Seven Principles of Kwanzaa. A new candle is lit for each day of the weeklong celebration from Dec. 26 to Jan. 1. Scholar and social activist Ron Karenga created Kwanzaa in 1966 as the first African-American holiday.

Local pg 2, 4
Looking back on the past year

Sports pg 11
Vancouver highlights from 2008

Canada pg 6
Snapshots from coast to coast

Going Out pg 20
Hot spots for New Year's Eve

Cartoons pg 23
Michael de Adder's top 'toons

Your next Metro
The next edition will appear Jan. 2

INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION
2306 Granville St. at 7th
P. 604 734 4395
*REVOLUTIONARY REDUCTIONS
Shop now for the best prices of the year!
Storewide savings up to 70%
industrialrevolution.net

Free Daily News Group Inc., operating as Metro Vancouver Newspapers 1190 Homer Street, Suite 250, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 2X6. Publisher: Maryse Lalonde

Local

A year in the life of Vancouver

From the Sea to Sky rock slide to the bailout for the 2010 Olympic village

FERNANDO CARNEIRO
fernando.carneiro@metronews.ca

Left, the Sea to Sky highway was closed for five days following a massive July 29 rock slide. The slide raised concerns as to the area's safety leading up to the 2010 Olympic Games. Right, B.C. became the first jurisdiction in North America to implement a carbon tax. "Axe the tax" rallies were held across the province.

Grant's Law
Feb. 1, 2008

After nearly three years of the De Patie family lobbying to make pre-payment of fuel at gas stations mandatory, Grant's Law was implemented provincewide.

It was a regulation Corinne and Doug De Patie had been fighting for since their son, Grant, 24, was dragged to his death trying to stop a gas-and-dash at a Maple Ridge service station in 2005.

The teenager who was eventually arrested in his death had stolen $12.30 worth of gas. He was charged with second-degree murder.

Carbon tax

B.C. announced in February that it would become the first jurisdiction in North America to implement a carbon tax. The tax, which is supposed to be revenue neutral, aims to raise $1.8 billion over three years.

Money was returned to British Columbians in the form of income tax cuts and a climate action dividend cheque of $100. The tax, which resulted in a 2.4 cent a litre bump in fuel prices, came into effect on July 1 at a time when world oil prices were at all-time highs.

Opposition to the tax was fierce and New Democrat MLAs held "axe the tax" rallies across the province.

Schoenborn

In April, three small children were discovered murdered in a trailer in the Southern Interior town of Merritt. Allen Dwayne Schoenborn, 40, the children's father and the RCMP's only suspect, fled town before the murders were discovered.

A 10-day manhunt followed, ending when a local hunter captured the fugitive in the bush outside of town. Schoenborn is charged with first-degree murder in the deaths of his children Kaitlynne, 10, Cordon, 8, and Max 5.

Bill Reid thefts

Thieves broke into the University of B.C.'s Museum of Anthropology in May and made off with 12 pieces of jewelry by late Haida artist Bill Reid. The jewelry was estimated at more than $2 million.

Less than a month later, the majority of pieces were recovered when police raided two homes in Burnaby. The final two pieces were later recovered, but one of the pieces, an argillite pipe, was damaged and missing about five centimetres.

Feet

The mysterious discovery of feet on beaches in the Fraser River and Gulf Islands continued in 2008. In February, a third foot was found on Valdes Island by forestry workers. A fourth was found in May on Kirkland Island and a fifth on Westham Island in June. A sixth shoe, found in near the Vancouver Island-town of Campbell River in June, turned out to be a hoax.

In November, a seventh shoe (and sixth foot) was found in Richmond along the South Arm of the Fraser. In all cases, police stressed there was no evidence of foul play and the feet became "disarticulated" from the ankle through natural decomposition.

Sea To Sky rock slide
July 29, 2008

The Sea To Sky Highway was closed for five days after a massive rock slide containing car-sized boulders tumbled across it.

No one was injured in the slide between Furry Creek and Porteau Cove.

Transportation Minister Kevin Falcon estimated the rubble to be 75 metres in length and 10 metres high, containing anywhere from 5,000 to 16,000 cubic metres of rock.

Just one day before the slide, the highway had been gridlocked with roughly 40,000 people returning to the Lower Mainland from the Pemberton Music Festival.

The Sea To Sky will be the main connector between Vancouver and Whistler during the 2010 Games.

Read more on page 4 ››

NEW PLANS FROM

$15

PER MONTH[1]

PLUS

› Phones at $0[2]

AND

› NO Activation Fee[3]

› NO System Access Fees

› NO Tab

the new fido™

Giving low prices a good home.

Why blow your budget?

THE NEW OWNER'S GUARANTEE

1. No System Access Fees
2. Free text alerts for budget control
3. No term contract necessary
4. We give back with FidoDollars™ every time you use your phone

SHOP FIDO.CA
Drop by a store
Call 1-866-301-3436

IF YOU SHARE OUR CONCERN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, PLEASE USE ONLINE BILLING. VISIT FIDO.CA/BILLING.

1. Local airtime over the allotted monthly minutes in the monthly plan, long-distance and roaming charges and any additional options selected and applicable taxes are extra and are also billed monthly. 2. With 2-year Fido Agreement. An early cancellation fee applies. 3. Limited-time offer available until December 31, 2008 on new activations. Activation fee will appear as a credit on your first invoice. Offers and pricing subject to change without prior notice. ™ Fido & design and FidoDollars are trademarks of Fido Solutions Inc. © 2008 Fido Solutions Inc.

FIDO STORES

VANCOUVER
483 Robson Street
Pacific Centre
Oakridge Centre
Park Royal Shopping Centre, West Vancouver

BURNABY
Brentwood Mall
Lougheed Town Centre
Metropolis at Metrotown
Royal Oak Fido Store

LANGLEY
Willowbrook Shopping Mall

PORT COQUITLAM
Coquitlam Centre

RICHMOND
Richmond Centre

SURREY
Guildford Town Centre

EXCLUSIVE DEALERS

VANCOUVER

B MOBILE
665 Robson Street

CELLULAR BABY
1191 Robson Street
2460 Heather Street
Capilano Mall, North Vancouver
City Square Mall, Vancouver
Park Royal Shopping Centre, West Vancouver

JC TELECOMMUNICATIONS
1238 Robson Street

KINGSWAY MOBILE
1463 Kingsway Avenue

PEPPER WIRELESS
First Avenue Market, Unit 102
3189 Main Street

SKYNET
Arbutus Village
8269 Granville Street
6338 Fraser Street

UNIPAGE
Royal Centre
3565 Kingsway
88 West Pender Street

WIRELESS WORLD
6596 Victoria Drive

ABBOTSFORD

GENERATION WIRELESS
Seven Oaks Mall

SKYNET
Meadow Fair Plaza

WIRELESS WORLD
32330 South Fraser Way, Unit 4

BURNABY

CELLULAR BABY
Lougheed Town Centre
Metropolis at Metrotown
Metrotown Centre

PEPPER WIRELESS
Crystal Mall

UNIPAGE
Crystal Mall
Metrotown Centre

WIRELESS WORLD
Hannam Supermarket, 4501 North Road #106

COQUITLAM

SKYNET
101A – 2748 Lougheed Highway

UNIPAGE
Henderson Mall

DELTA

WIRELESS WORLD
Scottsdale Mall

MAPLE RIDGE

SKYNET
Haney Place Mall

NEW WESTMINSTER

PEPPER WIRELESS
Royal City Centre

RICHMOND

CELLULAR BABY
Richmond Centre

PEPPER WIRELESS
Yaohan Centre
Lansdowne Centre
Aberdeen Centre
Richmond Public Market

SKYNET
4020 No 5 Road

UNIPAGE
Aberdeen Centre
Lansdowne Centre
Parker Place

SURREY

NONI WIRELESS PLUS
Peninsula Village
6926 King George Hwy
Real Canadian Superstore, 7550 King George Hwy
102 - 6955 – 128th Street

PEPPER WIRELESS
Central City Shopping Centre

SKYNET
7500 Scott Road, Unit 104
9182 – 120th Street

UNIPAGE
Central City Shopping Centre

WIRELESS WORLD
1 - 8388 – 128th Street
3 - 13634 – 104th Avenue
12845 – 96th Avenue

FUTURE SHOP
BEST BUY
WIRELESSWAVE
booth the telephone booth
WIRELESS etc...
COSTCO WHOLESALE
WAL★MART

bed

Santa won't come until you get into bed

100% cotton basics on sale now

locally made, modern, comfortable,& well-priced bedding in a huge selection of solids, prints, & textures that you won't find anywhere but bed
•making your bed since 1999•
2151 West 4th Ave., Vancouver, BC
604.736.3482 www.bed-online.com

Gift Certificates Now Available!

Presto CUCINA

Benvenuto! Welcome to Presto Cucina -
a warm and unpretentious way to enjoy the flavours of Italy.
Open everyday at 11:30 am. Take out available - Licensed
Kitsilano • Abbotsford • West Van • South Surrey
www.prestocucina.ca

4 local

Left, Gregor Robinson celebrates his election as Vancouver mayor. Right, the severed feet case has captured attention across Canada.

Continued from page 2 ››

Star power

Vancouver welcomed more than its fair share of big-name celebrities in 2008, including some iconic rockers, and two high-profile Hollywood heartthrobs who married here.

Music fans were kept busy, and their pockets empty, when Janet Jackson launched her world tour here on Sept. 10, followed by the arrival of AC/DC on Oct. 20 — a concert that sold out within four minutes. Madonna put on a show at B.C. Place on Oct. 30, and Metallica took to the stage on Dec. 2.

Homegrown actor Ryan Reynolds married Scarlett Johansson in a private ceremony near Vancouver on Sept. 29

Olympic Village bailout October-November 2008

In October, the City of Vancouver approved a $100-million loan to the financially struggling Olympic Village developer in a closed-door meeting.

Information about the deal was leaked to the public by an anonymous source after private papers disappeared from Coun. Peter Ladner's desk, reappearing two days later on the desk of Coun. B.C. Lee.

Then-mayor Sam Sullivan ordered a police investigation into the disappearance. Then-mayoral candidate Gregor Robertson argued that citizens have a right to know how their money is being spent, and has since ordered the details of the loan agreement be made public.

Mayor Robertson Dec. 8, 2008

Vancouverites elected a new mayor, Gregor Robertson, in November, officially ending Sam Sullivan's three-year term and his hopes at being the city's Olympic mayor.

The Happy Planet juice company founder — who's known to bicycle to press conferences — promised immediate changes at City Hall, and vowed to make the fight to end homelessness his priority.

2010 tickets

In October, B.C.'s Olympic dream got a little closer with the first release of tickets to the 2010 Games. Tickets were sold online and allocated by lottery. The website, Vancouver 2010.com, received more than four million hits after the tickets went on sale. Ice hockey was far and away the most requested Olympic event. Within hours, Olympic tickets were being sold online at inflated prices.

www.IWantMyHolidayBonus.com
BRITISH COLUMBIA Honda Dealers
www.BCHonda.com
HONDA

BROADWAY CAMERA

Boxing Day Madness

Amazing Door Crasher Deals, Doors Open At 9am

Powershot SX10

$339.99 Limit 6 per store at this price.

Powershot G10

$399.99 Limit 10 per store at this price.

Coolpix P80

$319.99 Limit 8 per store at this price.

Sigma 10-20 All Mounts!

$579.99 Limit 8 per store at this price.

Alpha 200
18-70 Kit

$399.99 Limit 5 per store at this price.

Pentax W60

$269.99 Limit 6 per store at this price.

www.bccamera.com

Vancouver - 1055 West Broadway
Just West Of Oak, Tel# 604-733-9282

Richmond - #2130 - 4151 Hazelbridge Way
Aberdeen Centre, Tel# 604-232-9278

EIGHT Days of Savings, Friday, December 26, 2008 to Friday, January 2, 2009

GIFT CARD BONUS WEEK!

DECEMBER 26 - JANUARY 2

RECEIVE **10x** THE SHOPPERS OPTIMUM POINTS®!

on your **ENTIRE PURCHASE**** when you redeem the full amount of any Shoppers Drug Mart® Gift Card.***

Friday, December 26th is Seniors' Day

Seniors save **20%**†

PLUS **$10 COUPON**

SENIORS RECEIVE A FREE $10 SHOPPERS DRUG MART COUPON WITH A PURCHASE OF $50 OR MORE††.

BOXING WEEK SALE

UP TO **75% OFF***

Up to 50% off*
SELECTED PICTURE FRAMES & ALBUMS

Up to 50% off*
SELECTED CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS, WRAP or ACCESSORIES

OLYMPUS 2GB XD PICTURE CARD **24.99 each**

8888 each
OLYMPUS FE-20
8.0 MEGA PIXELS
3x OPTICAL ZOOM
DIGITAL CAMERA

Up to 50% off*
SELECTED GAMES
Excludes Video Games

Up to 50% off*
SELECTED CHRISTMAS CHOCOLATE

Up to 50% off*
SELECTED CHRISTMAS CANDY

75% off*
SELECTED CONAIR PRODUCTS
Selection may vary by store

Up to 50% off*
SELECTED FRAGRANCE GIFT SETS
Selection may vary by store

1999 each
SELECTED FRAGRANCES
While Quantities Last. No Rainchecks.

299 each
SELECTED 2009 WALL CALENDARS

40% off*
QUO
COSMETIC BRUSHES
Selected Types

Up to 50% off*
SELECTED COSMETIC KITS

40% off*
TONI&GUY
HAIR DRYER & STRAIGHTENER or HAIR DRYER & CURLING IRON GIFT SETS

HUGGIES
MAINLINE (40's - 72's), SUPREME (34's - 66's), SNUG & DRY (84's) or
PAMPERS
MEGA (28's - 84's) DIAPERS
Selected Types
1399 each

24 Roll

ROYALE
2 PLY (24 Roll) or DOUBLE (12 Roll) BATHROOM TISSUE
Limit 4. After Limit 7.99
599 each

LIFE BRAND
VITAMINS or NATURAL HEALTH PRODUCTS
25% off*

*Our Regular Price. †Discounts apply to our regular prices on all merchandise purchased by seniors and their accompanying family members with a valid Shoppers Optimum Card®. Excludes sale items, prescription purchases, insulin, products with codeine, tobacco products (where applicable), newspapers, stamps, lottery tickets, event tickets, Life Experiences, transit tickets and passes, electronic gift cards and prepaid phone cards. Discounts may not exceed $50. Offer valid Friday, December 26, 2008. See store for details. ††While quantities last. Offer valid on the purchase total of eligible products after discounts and redemptions and before taxes. Excludes prescription purchases, products with codeine, tobacco products (where applicable), stamps, lottery tickets, event tickets, transit tickets and passes, electronic gift cards, Life Experiences® packages, prepaid phone cards and Shoppers Home Health Care locations. We reserve the right to substitute an item of equivalent value. Not to be used in conjunction with any other Shoppers Drug Mart promotions or offers. Offer valid Friday, December 26, 2008 only. Coupon will be accepted until January 26, 2009. See cashier for details. ® 911979 Alberta Ltd. **Points are issued according to the net pretax purchase total of eligible products after redemptions and discounts and before taxes using a valid Shoppers Optimum Card® from Friday, December 26, 2008 until Friday, January 2, 2009. Excludes prescription purchases, any Shoppers Optimum Bonus Points® offered on individual products, products that contain codeine, tobacco products (where applicable), lottery tickets, stamps, transit tickets and passes, event tickets, electronic gift cards, prepaid phone cards, Life Experiences® packages and Shoppers Home Health Care locations. Offer applies to photofinishing services that are picked up and paid for between Friday, December 26, 2008 and Friday, January 2, 2009. Not to be used in conjunction with any other Shoppers Optimum Points® promotions or offers. The additional points will be added to your account by January 12, 2009. ***Eligible Shoppers Drug Mart Gift Cards must be purchased on or before December 25, 2008. Entire face value of Gift Card must be redeemed to receive points. Excludes raincheck vouchers, Shoppers Drug Mart Coupons, Seniors Day Coupons, Beauty Gift certificates and vouchers. See cashier for details. ® 911979 Alberta Ltd.

SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Canadians caught up in terror attacks
Terrorist gunmen who attacked multiple sites in Mumbai, India, on Nov. 26, including a train station and two luxury hotels, left two Canadians dead among at least 174 people. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Canada

The Ides of March

March brought in good news and bad for at least two peoplew. Former media baron Conrad Black, left, began his six-year sentence on March 3 in a Florida prison for fraud and obstruction of justice. On March 15, Ontario resident Anna Falco, 53, won almost $9 million at a casino, the largest-ever slot payout in Canada. METRO NEWS SERVICES

DO IT ONLINE. NOT IN LINE.
See online movie showtimes, trailers, reviews and purchase tickets at metronews.ca/movies

Depressed in Winter?

If you are 19-65 years old, generally in good health, not currently in psychiatric treatment and you have **3 or more of the following symptoms in winter:**

- ☐ **Feeling sad or down**
- ☐ **Loss of interest or motivation**
- ☐ **Increased need for sleep**
- ☐ **Fatigue or decreased energy**
- ☐ **Increased appetite**
- ☐ **Poor concentration**

You may be eligible to participate in a research study comparing new forms of **LIGHT AND NEGATIVE ION TREATMENT for WINTER DEPRESSION.**

The study is being conducted by Dr. Raymond Lam at the Mood Disorders Centre, UBC Hospital.

For more information, call 604-822-7627.

Mood Disorders Centre
A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE AT UBC HOSPITAL

UBC

2008 was eventful year

January
12 - The New Brunswick town of Bathurst is in mourning after seven members of a school basketball team, and a teacher die as their van collides with a truck on an icy road.

February
19 - British Columbia is the first in North America to implement a full-fledged carbon tax.

March
3 - A young Canadian man, Mohammed Kohail, gets the death sentence in Saudi Arabia after a schoolyard brawl results in the death of one person.
13 - It's official. Canada will stay in Afghanistan until 2011 after Parliament votes to extend the military mission by two years.

REUTERS FILE PHOTO

Prime Minister Stephen Harper announces at Rideau Hall in Ottawa on Dec. 4 that Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean approved his recommendation to prorogue Parliament.

April
18 - Canada bans chemical bisphenol A, found in plastic products such as baby and water bottles.

May
1 - You have to be at least 16 years old to have sex after the legal age is raised to 16 from 14.

June
16 - Ottawa lists The World Tamil Movement as a terrorist organization.

July
1 - Protests pour in after abortion rights activist Dr. Henry Morgentaler is appointed to Order of Canada.

August
15 - Christopher Paul Neil, 33, of Maple Ridge, B.C., gets three years in Thai prison for sexually abusing 13-year-old boy.

September
7 - Prime Minister Stephen Harper calls general election for Oct. 14.

October
14 - Stephen Harper's Conservatives return to power in federal election.

November
8 - Kidnapped CBC reporter Melissa Fung is released by Afghan insurgents after 28 days in captivity.

December
1 - Liberals, NDP, with Bloc Québécois support, agree to form coalition government if the minority government falls.
5 - 100th Canadian soldier dies in Afghanistan.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

I.T.F. Corporation Boxing Day Blow Out

12 pc Carl Weill Cookware Set
Regular $2500

NOW $229.99
SAVE $2300.00

- 18/10 Stainless Steel.
- Polished **INSIDE** & Outside.
- 5 Ply Bottom Base.
- Riveted Handles.
- Temperature Gauges on Lids.
- Designed for ALL Cook Tops including Induction.
- **LIFETIME WARRANTY**

72 pc Carl Weill Cutlery Set
Regular $1500

NOW $119.99
SAVE $1350.00

- 18/10 Stainless Steel.
- Dishwasher Safe.
- Includes Quality Briefcase.
- **LIFETIME WARRANTY**

SALE ENDS JANUARY 5, 2008

I.T.F Corporation
Unit 119 - 5589 Byrne Road, Burnaby
(Just off Marine Way near Canadian Tire)
OPEN 11AM TO 6PM, 7 DAYS A WEEK
604-568-5218 | www.itfcorporation.com

Other locations across Canada to serve you
Vancouver Island - Jerry's Housewares - 250-715-8972
Carl Weill - 147 Lakeshore Road, Mississauga, ON - 905-274-6789
New Era Gifts - 5840 Decarie Road, Montreal, QUE - 514-979-3693
Aprex Deals - Unit 117-3901 54th Ave, NE Calgary - 403-971-0223

Get a bundle you can bank on.

Most reliable home phone‡ | Most choice in long distance | Most secure High Speed access**

Save over 15%* with a bundle you can bank on.

From $54.95/mo.* for 1 year, with 1 month FREE†.

TELUS

the future is friendly®

Call 310-1144 or visit telus.com/bundle or your nearest TELUS authorized dealer.

*Offer available until December 31, 2008 to residential clients in select locations. Starting on month 13 bundle rate will be $59.95/month. Prices may vary for existing clients on a TELUS Long Distance or High Speed Internet service agreement. †1 month of free services available to clients who have not subscribed to TELUS High Speed Internet in the past 90 days. Minimum system requirements apply. ‡Based on total service disruptions and outages experienced by clients in the past year. **Defined as the most comprehensive suite of hardware and software security tools. © 2008 TELUS.

TELUS AUTHORIZED DEALERS

LOWER MAINLAND

Vancouver
551 Robson St.
Oakridge Centre
Pacific Centre
2163 West 4th Ave.
501 West Georgia St.
101 - 925 West Georgia St.
5720 East Blvd.
689 Thurlow St.
3 - 1855 Burrard St.
3343 West Broadway
2748 Rupert St.
1 - 525 Seymour St.
150 - 625 Howe St.
105 - 950 West Broadway
1707 Robson St.
1092 Kingsway
10 - 3490 Kingsway

Aldergrove
310 - 26310 Fraser Hwy.

Abbotsford
Sevenoaks Shopping Centre
2 - 32915 South Fraser Way
1 - 2142 Clearbrook Rd.
401 - 2140 Sumas Way

Burnaby
Brentwood Mall
Crystal Square
Lougheed Mall
Metrotown/Metropolis
214B - 4501 North Rd.
4711 Kingsway
7531 Market Crossing
111 - 3823 Henning Dr.
204B - 3430 Brighton Ave.

Chilliwack
Cottonwood Mall
103 - 45300 Luckakuck Way
11 - 45905 Yale Rd.
7544B Vedder Rd.

Cloverdale
201 - 17725 64th Ave.

Coquitlam
Coquitlam Centre
101 - 3278 Westwood St.
5 - 3000 Lougheed Hwy.
2700B Barnet Hwy.
22 - 2988 Glen Dr.
2 - 901 Lougheed Hwy.

New Westminster
Royal City Centre

Delta
Scottsdale Mall
7235 120th St.
1517 56th St.

Langley
Walnut Grove Town Centre
Willowbrook Shopping Centre
3 - 19638 Fraser Hwy.
103 - 19700 Langley Bypass
C104 - 20159 88th Ave.
19971 96th Ave.
C7 - 20202 66th Ave.

Maple Ridge
22661 Lougheed Hwy.

Mission
100 - 32670 Lougheed Hwy.
318 - 32555 London Ave.

North Vancouver
Capilano Mall
127 - 1199 Lynn Valley Rd.
1295 Marine Dr.
1748 Lonsdale Ave.
1392 Main St.

Port Moody
202 Newport Dr.

Pitt Meadows
735 - 19800 Lougheed Hwy.

Richmond
Aberdeen Centre
Admiralty Centre Mall
Ironwood Mall
Lansdowne Mall
Parker Place
Richmond Centre
115 - 12571 Bridgeport Rd.

Surrey
Central City Shopping Centre
Guildford Town Centre
201 - 13734 104th Ave.
135 - 12477 88th Ave.
2404 King George Hwy.
1675 128th St.
108 - 7380 King George Hwy.
403 - 15940 Fraser Hwy.
10310A 152nd St.

West Vancouver
Park Royal Shopping Centre
North/South

White Rock
Semiahmoo Shopping Centre
10 - 3189 King George Hwy.

OKANAGAN/NORTHERN BC

Aberdeen Mall (Kamloops)
Northills Centre (Kamloops)
Orchard Park Mall (Kelowna)
Spall Plaza (Kelowna)
Cherry Lane Shopping Centre (Penticton)
Pine Centre (Prince George)
Piccadilly Mall (Salmon Arm)
Village Green Mall (Vernon)

Whistler
7009 Nesters Rd.

Squamish
38116 2nd Ave.

May 22, 2008

A Texas appeals court rules that authorities broke the law by seizing more than 400 children from a polygamous ranch. The authorities acted on an anonymous tip to of child abuse. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

World

April 7, 2008

The Olympic torch is snuffed out by organizers in Paris as anti-China protests plague the global torch run. Two days later, the Olympic torch is forced to be rerouted away from thousands of pro-Tibet demonstrators in San Francisco.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Lotusland
PREMIUM PRE-OWNED
ELECTRONICS AND MUSIC
Buy ★ Sell ★ Trade
2660 ALMA STREET, VANCOUVER, 604.733.0771

PROVIDING ENTERTAINMENT FOR OVER 25 YEARS
THE VANCOUVER THEATRESPORTS® LEAGUE
December 31st, 2008 Local Fun & Entertainment www.vtsl.com
YEAR IN REVIEW

Purchase a group of 6 or more before Dec 30th, at noon and save as much as $6.50/ticket*. Visit www.vtsl.com for info.

Celebrate the New Year with Vancouver TheatreSports' YEAR IN REVIEW, a parody of local, national and international headlines from the past year, and an optimistic look to the year ahead.

A traditional New Year's Eve sell-out, audiences are encouraged to book their tickets early!

New Year's Eve • Wednesday December 31st only.
6:30pm Year in Review • Family Version (60 min),
8:00pm Year in Review (60 min)
9:30pm Year in Review (60 min),
11:00pm Year in Review • Celebration Show - Champagne & more! (75 min)

*Offer available for 8pm & 9:30pm shows only.

ticketmaster.ca 604.280.4444
IMPROV COMEDY AT THE NEW REVUE STAGE ON Granville Island
Groups/Info 604.738.7013
VANCOUVER THEATRESPORTS LEAGUE www.vtsl.com

Obama makes history

A rundown of top newsmaking events in 2008

January

18 — U.S. President George W. Bush gives his stamp of approval on a $100-billion stimulus package in an effort to prevent recession and control the damage caused by the housing crisis. The mess hammers banks, consumers and investors in effects that are felt all year long.

21 — Investor anxiety over prospects of a U.S. and global recession sends stock prices crashing around the globe. The Toronto Stock Exchange falls more than 600 points.

February

11 — U.S. military prosecutors charge six detainees in connection with 9-11 attacks. They ask to impose the death penalty.

19 — Cuban leader Fidel Castro ends the longest rule in the world by a head of government as he resigns as president after 49 years.

March

12 — New York state Gov. Eliot Spitzer resigns amid allegations he used taxpayer dollars for the services of a high-priced prostitution ring.

14 — 16 people are killed in Tibet during protests against Chinese rule. The protests are led by Buddhist monks.

April

27 — The Taliban attack a military parade in Kabul, Afghanistan. President Hamid Karzai and dignitaries, including the Canadian ambassador, escape uninjured.

May

JEFF HAYNES/REUTERS

U.S. president-elect Senator Barack Obama waves as he arrives on stage during his election night rally in Chicago Nov. 4, 2008.

3 — More than 134,000 people are killed in southwestern Myanmar as cyclone Nargis smashes into the country.

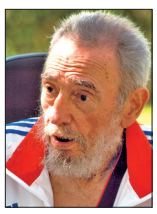
12 — Southwestern China is rocked by a massive earthquake that kills 80,000 people.

June

13 — In a daring prison break, more than 1,100 inmates, including 400 Taliban, escape from detention in Kandahar.

26 — U.S. President Bush announces he will remove North Korea from a terrorism blacklist after it provides a declaration of its nuclear capabilities

July



Fidel Castro

30 — GM announces a 15 per cent cut to its U.S. and Canadian salaried workforce.

August

6 — Salim Hamdan, Osama bin Laden's former driver, is found guilty of terrorism. It is the first to come through the U.S. military tribunal process at Guantanamo Bay.

September

7 — Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are taken over by the U.S. government as it attempts to ease the financial crisis related to house price collapse.

October

14 — U.S. President announces a $250-billion plan to buy shares in U.S. banks. It is the biggest bailout of the country's banks since the Depression.

November

4 — Barack Obama wins the U.S. presidency in a landslide victory. He becomes the first African-American president in U.S. history.

16 — A Saudi oil tanker is hijacked by pirates off the coast of Kenya. It is believed the tanker was carrying $100 million in cargo

26 — Terrorist attacks in Mumbai leave the country in mourning. The gunmen launch attacks on tourist sites, a crowded train station and two luxury hotels killing nearly 200 people.

December

5 — O.J. Simpson is sentenced to 33 years in prison for kidnapping and robbing two sports memorabilia dealers at gunpoint.

6 — A teenage boy is shot dead by Greek police in a district of central Athens long associated with lawlessness and drug abuse. The boy's death sparks riots across Greece for several weeks

19 - U.S. President Bush tosses a $17.4-billion government lifeline to GM and Chrysler. The move is intended to ensure the automakers survival and prevent another blow to his legacy. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

the SOLUTION to YOUR Resolution!
Immediate Results!
Quick, Easy, Flexible
Eat Your Favorite Food and Lose Weight
I lost 24 pounds in just six weeks...and a total of 113 pounds! Thank you LA Weight Loss!
— Cheyenne Luken
Lose Your Weight Not Your Lifestyle
LA WEIGHT LOSS CENTERS®
www.laweightloss.com

Expires January 3, 2009
BOXING WEEK SPECIAL
LOWEST PRICE OF THE YEAR! ONLY $5 PER WEEK*
Lose Your Weight, Not Your Lifestyle Call Today!
1-888-353-SLIM (7546)
LA WEIGHT LOSS CENTERS®
*Achieving and maintaining weight loss, and achieving a specific amount of weight loss, depends on numerous individualized factors. Your results will differ based on your overweight status. Results not typical. Based on a full service premiere program payable in advance. Must be a new client. Cannot be combined with any other offer. See centre for details.
N00128_2 (12/08) ©2008 LA Weight Loss Franchise Company

Mistletoe or not, with deals this good, you'll want to kiss somebody.

For a limited time, get three amazing offers in one great sale.

Visit a Bell store • 1 888 4-MOBILE • bell.ca

50%OFF select smartphones[1] **+ 50%OFF** rate plans for 3 months[1] **+ $50** accessories credit[2]

3G BlackBerry® Curve™ 8330 smartphone

$49.95

with a $45 voice and data plan on a 3-yr. term[3] ($549.95 no term)

3G Samsung Instinct™

$49.95

with a $100 Fun bundle discount on a 3-yr. term[4] ($399.95 no term)

Samsung Cleo™

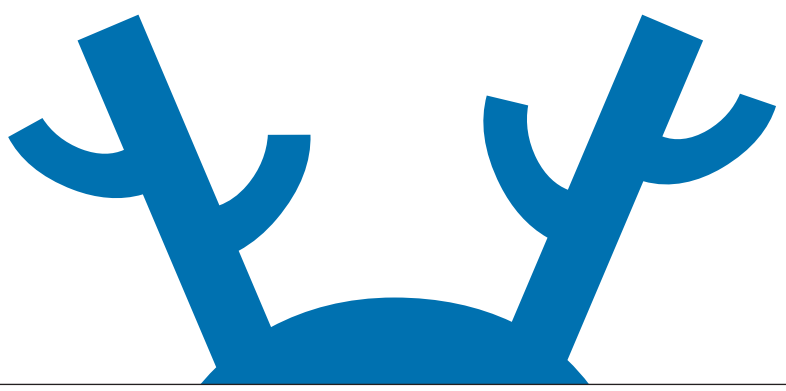
$24.95

on a 3-yr. term[2] ($274.95 no term)

LG Rumour™

$0

on a 3-yr. term[1] ($249.95 no term)



Bell shopping just got better

Also available at these retailers: CAMPBELL RIVER Pure Wireless; COURTENAY Pure Wireless; DUNCAN VI Cellular; MISSION Valley Toys Ltd; WHISTLER WSC Communications; Costco Wholesale; booth the telephone booth; WIRELESS etc...; WIRELESSWAVE

Offer ends December 24, 2008. Available with compatible devices within Bell Mobility high speed mobile network coverage areas. Other monthly fees, i.e., e9-1-1 (75¢), system access (not a government fee) ($8.95), and one-time device activation ($35) apply. Long distance and roaming charges (including foreign taxes) may apply outside your local area. Upon early termination, price adjustment charges apply. Subject to change without notice; not combinable with other offers. Taxes extra. Other conditions apply. **(1)** With new activation on a 3-yr. contract on a monthly voice plan. **(2)** With new activation on a 3-yr. contract on a monthly voice plan. Rebate applies on accessories before taxes in-store, on the Web or on the account otherwise; allow 4 to 6 weeks. **(3)** With new activation on a monthly voice plan and a data feature with a total min. value of $45/mo. **(4)** With new activation on a monthly voice plan with a min. Fun 15 bundle. Rebate applies on device before taxes in-store, on the Web or on the account otherwise; allow 4 to 6 weeks. You must keep the Fun bundle for 12 months after activation, otherwise a one-time data service price adjustment of $99 will be charged on your account. BlackBerry®, RIM®, Research In Motion®, SureType®, SurePress™ and related trademarks, names and logos are the property of Research In Motion Limited and are registered and/or used in the U.S. and countries around the world. Samsung Instinct and Samsung Cleo are trademarks of Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., and its related entities. Rumour is a trademark of LG Electronics Inc.

Available at the following Bell stores:

LOWER MAINLAND

ABBOTSFORD
- 31935 South Fraser Way
- Sevenoaks Shopping Centre

BURNABY
- Brentwood Town Centre
- Kensington Square
- Lougheed Mall
- Marine Way Market
- Metrotown Centre
- Metropolis at Metrotown
- Metropolis at Metrotown kiosk

CHILLIWACK
- Cottonwood Mall

COQUITLAM
- Coquitlam Centre

CRANBROOK
- First Pro Cranbrook

DELTA
- Scottsdale Centre

DAWSON CREEK
- 600 113TH AVE

FORT ST. JOHN
- 8820-100th St.
- Totem Mall

LANGLEY
- Walnut Gate
- Willowbrook Corner
- Willowbrook Mall

MAPLE RIDGE
- Haney Place Mall

NEW WESTMINSTER
- Queensborough Landing

PITT MEADOWS
- Meadowtown Centre

RICHMOND
- 3675 Westminster Hwy
- Aberdeen Centre
- Blundell Centre
- Richmond Centre
- Sands Plaza

SQUAMISH
- 40446 Government Rd.

SURREY
- 10362 King George Hwy
- 13630 72 Ave.
- Guildford Town Centre
- Nordel Crossing
- Panorama Village
- Semiahmoo Shopping Centre

VANCOUVER
- 567 Seymour St.
- 698 West Broadway
- 1008 West Georgia St.
- 1100 Robson St.
- 1588 West Broadway
- 1709 Lonsdale Ave.
- 2154 West 4th
- 2315 West 41st
- Bentall Centre
- Capilano Mall
- Chinatown Plaza
- Lynn Valley
- Oakridge Centre
- Pacific Centre
- Park Royal N.
- Park Royal S.

OKANAGAN

CASTELGAR
- 635 Columbia Ave.

KAMLOOPS
- Aberdeen Mall
- Inside Real Canadian Superstore
- Lansdowne Village

KELOWNA
- 948 McCurdy Rd
- Dilworth Shopping Centre
- Orchard Park Shopping Centre

PENTICTON
- Peachtree Square

PRINCE GEORGE
- Pine Centre

QUESNEL
- 259 Reid St.

VERNON
- 4710 31 St. Unit 106
- Village Green Mall

WILLIAMS LAKE
- Boitanio Mall

VANCOUVER ISLAND

NANAIMO
- Country Club Centre
- Woodgrove Centre

VICTORIA
- Bay Centre
- Hillside Shopping Centre
- Mayfair Shopping Centre
- Westshore Town Centre

ORGANIKA
Relieve Osteoarthritis Pain Naturally...

www.organika.com
Consumers Nutrition
Richmond Center, 1112 - 6551 No. 3 Road, Richmond, BC V6Y 2B6
604-270-0007

SleepCountry
CLEARANCE CENTRES
All Price Ranges • Luxury Models
Discontinued Models • Demonstrators
Mix & Match Models • Metal Headboards
Adjustable Beds • Mattresses of All Comfort Levels • All Sizes Available, Even Kings!

SERTA • SEALY • SIMMONS • TEMPUR
RESTWELL • AND MORE
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
MONDAY - FRIDAY 10AM TO 9PM
SATURDAY 9:30AM TO 6PM | SUNDAY 11AM TO 5PM
QUEENBOROUGH LANDING
805 BOYD STREET, NEW WESTMINSTER
604-515-9711 (IN FRONT OF WALMART & BEST BUY)
STRAWBERRY HILL SHOPPING CENTRE
12077 72ND AVENUE, SURREY
604-597-3313 (ACROSS FROM WINNERS & CHAPTERS)

Business

Economic tsunami

U.S. housing crisis let loose tidal wave of financial woes

Take a deep breath and brace yourself. As bad as 2008 was for financial turmoil from the average consumer to the mightiest of corporations around the world — forecasts are for an even gloomier outlook in 2009.

It means that the average Canadian will face more financial struggles in 2009. Predictions range from 150-to -200,000 more people losing their jobs as the economic recession gets worse.

Looking back to earlier this year, there were several analysts on several TV shows in Canada and the U.S. who warned what was likely around the corner for world economies if things didn't get fixed. Truth is the financial downturn was so overwhelming that the inevitable "R" word was a case of not if, but how soon a recession would arrive.

With financial bailouts in the trillions around the word becoming a necessity to bail out banks and the auto industry, and other industries lining up looking for assistance, where does it all end? No one knows.

As the US recession worsens almost every day, Canada will have to deal with a weaker domestic demand from its largest client and partner. Furthermore, a very moderate growth of the economy is expected in 2009.

According to the Laurentian Bank's economic and financial outlook for 2009, interest rates in Canada should remain very low in 2009, and the Canadian dollar is expected to trade between 0.80 and 0.85 US during the year.

Laurentian stated that although the recession here is likely to be less severe than south of the border, nonetheless, Canada's labour market is showing some cracks. Total employment fell by a hefty 70,600 in November. The unemployment rate edged up from 6.2 per cent to 6.3 per cent as many Canadians just threw in the towel and stopped looking for a job amid the financial turmoil and economic recession.

Laurentian forecasts economic activity to contract by 0.5 per cent in Canada in 2009.

Exports, imports, residential construction, and business investment are all expected to pull back. Employment should dip slightly in 2009, while the unemployment rate should increase modestly, to approximately 7 per cent. Amid economic uncertainties, households will be more prudent and ease the pedal on spending.

Where did all this disaster start? Look to the U.S., where their housing crisis, now its third year, pushed the country into a consumer-led recession officially begun in December 2007. The slump in the real estate sector also spawned a worldwide financial crisis, which grew worse in the second half of 2008, dragging the other blocks of industrialized nations into recession as well.

According to The National Bank Financial Group team of economists in Canada, the U.S. recession should last until mid-2009, that is, 18 to 20 months in all, which would make it the second longest in 80 years. This unusual duration is due to the fact that U.S. households must reduce their indebtedness significantly in the face of an employment market that has shed almost two million jobs to date.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Credit

- The U.S. Federal Reserve has slashed its key rate from 5.25 per cent to nearly zero per cent since September 2007, but the financial crisis has generated an increase in risk premiums and a credit crunch.
- The Federal Reserve and the U.S. Treasury have taken exceptional action to assure the solvency of the financial system and to inject liquidity directly into the economy.

Enjoy Listening? Helping Others?
Get paid to do the work you love!
Pursue a career in Counselling.
The Vancouver College of Counsellor Training Offers:
Free Information Sessions - every Wednesday (11 a.m.)
- Diploma of Professional Counselling (52 week program)
- Diploma of Counselling Practice
- Family Support Worker Certificate (24 week program)
- Addictions Worker Certificate (24 week program)
- Specialized Areas of Interest & Individual Courses

Call 604-683-2442 or 1-800-667-3272
www.vcct.ca • info@vcct.ca

UPSTAIRS AT 303 W. HASTINGS
OPEN NEXT DOOR TO CCHQ 307 W. HASTINGS
2 FOR 1 Valid in 2008
Vapour Lounge

VOLCANOS • POOL TABLE
FOOD & DRINKS • FREE WIRELESS • INTERNET LOUNGE
AVAILABLE FOR EVENTS & PRIVATE BOOKINGS

MORREY MAZDA - VANCOUVER
MORREY MAZDA VANCOUVER
YEAR END MAZDA 3 EVENT

Mazda 3 Sedan
0% FINANCING*
UP TO 36 MONTHS*
90 DAYS NO PAYMENT
UP TO $750 CASH REBATE**

Mazda 3 Sport
*0% UP TO 36 MONTH APR **$750.00 CASH REBATE ON MAZDA 3 GX SPORT AND SEDAN
READY TO ROLL
OUR PRE-DELIVERY COMMITMENT MEANS EVERY NEW MAZDA IS CHECKED OUT, GASSED UP, AND FITTED WITH FLOOR MATS.
ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM Ask about the Mazda peace of mind promise standard on every new Mazda.
MAZDA LEADERSHIP WARRANTY Ask about our outstanding comprehensive and powertrain warranty coverage.
MORREY MAZDA OF VANCOUVER 604-253-4221 | MORREYAUTO.COM
1550 E. HASTINGS ST. (BETWEEN CLARK & COMMERCIAL DR.) VAN

Sports

SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Top 10 sports stories of '08

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

The Lions honoured Bob Ackles after he died in July.

Luc Bourdon, 21, the Vancouver Canucks 10th overall pick in 2005, died in May in a motorcycle accident near his hometown of Shippagan, N.B. To honour the young defenceman, the Canucks held a pre-game ceremony during their season opener at GM Place.

• B.C. Lions President and CEO Bob Ackles died of a heart attack in July. Ackles, the Lions waterboy during their founding season (1953), worked his way up the ranks to general manager in 1975 through to 1986. Following stints with the NFL and the XFL, Ackles returned to the Lions in 2002, bringing in head coach Wally Buono.

• In 2008 the Vancouver Whitecaps captured their second United Soccer League First Division title in three years with a 2-1 victory over the Puerto Rico Islanders at Swangard Stadium.

• In July, the Whitecaps announced that they were seeking a Major League Soccer expansion franchise for the 2011 season. Basketball superstar Steve Nash joined the ownership group as part of the bid, which also involved the 'Caps signing a three-year lease to play in a renovated B.C. Place.

• The legal battle for the Vancouver Canucks came to a head in January, when the Supreme Court of British Columbia ruled that Aquilini family was the legal owner of the team. An appeal of the decision is underway.

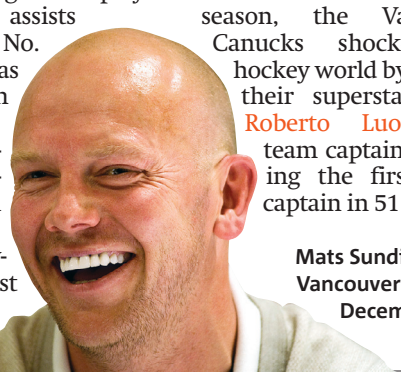
• Burnaby's Dave Nonis was fired in April as general manager of the Canucks after the team failed to make the playoffs for the second time in three seasons. The Canucks hired player agent Mike Gillis as his replacement.

• Captain Canuck Trevor Linden retired in June after 20 years in the National Hockey League. The Canucks' first-round pick (second overall) in the 1988 entry draft spent parts of 15 season with the Canucks, leading the team to within one goal of the Stanley Cup in 1994. Linden leads the team in games played (1140) and assists (415). His No. 16 jersey was retired in December.

• In October, 10 female ski jumpers filed a lawsuit against the Vancouver Olympic Organizing Committee (Vanoc), claiming that the decision barring them from taking part in the 2010 Games violated their rights under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

• Ohhh that Mats Sundin. On July 1, the Vancouver Canucks made an offer to make the 37-year-old Swede the highest paid player in the game — $20 million over two years. In December, he signed with the Canucks for about $5 million for the remainder of the season.

• At the start of the NHL season, the Vancouver Canucks shocked the hockey world by naming their superstar goalie Roberto Luongo as team captain, becoming the first goalie captain in 51 years.


Mats Sundin chose Vancouver in December.

MAX Dental @ Yaletown

NEW PATIENTS PACKAGE
$199* APPROX. $325 VALUE
EXPIRES JAN. 31/2009
Ask about "Whitening for Life"
* Includes check-up and cleaning and choose from a FREE take home whitening kit OR electric toothbrush OR $199 Zoom Whitening (reg. $399). *Some exceptions may apply.*
WE DO BOTOX!
The MAX Dental @ Yaletown
90 Smithe Street 604.609.2020 www.yaletowndentists.com

MATTRESS MARKDOWN!
BOXING DAY SALE STARTS 10 AM
40 TO 90 % OFF MATTRESSES, FUTONS & FRAMES
KING MEMORY FOAM MATTRESS – 75% OFF
UNADVERTISED IN-STORE SPECIALS

$998
ELECTRIC ADJUSTABLE BED
50% OFF

$698
KING MEMORY FOAM MATTRESS
REG. $1298

$698
KING POCKET COIL SET (MM)
REG. $1498

$488
QUEEN POCKET COIL WITH THICK MEMORY FOAM

PARKER'S
Mattress Factory
2 LOCATIONS ONLY
108 E. Broadway, Vancouver • 604-879-7037
20268 Fraser Highway, Langley • 604-533-1644

www.IWantMyHolidayBonus.com
BRITISH COLUMBIA Honda DEALERS www.BCHonda.com
HONDA

G4S
Group 4 Securicor
G4S Security Services (Canada) Ltd.
The Leading International Security Provider
FT & PT positions
Must have BST 1 & 2
604-661-0313 fax: 604-683-0621
email: kevin.paxman@ca.g4s.com

$100,000
FREE FACE-OFF HOCKEY CHALLENGE
October 6, 2008 – April 13, 2009
Pick the winners of each weekend's Pro Hockey games and win your share of
$100,000 IN CASH PRIZES!
Visit Edgewater Casino Guest Services for full contest conditions.
08-09

Edgewater Casino
DOWNTOWN VANCOUVER
At the Plaza of Nations
750 Pacific Blvd. Vancouver, BC V6B 5E7
604.687.3343 | www.edgewatercasino.ca

British Columbia Lottery Corporation
Know your limit, play within it.
19+ YEARS

Avery muzzled

Sean Avery's tenure with the Dallas Stars came to an unceremonious end in December after making lewd remarks regarding two of his ex-girlfriends who are currently dating other NHL players. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Moments in time

"The best thing about sports is the sense of community and shared emotion it can create." –Bob Costas

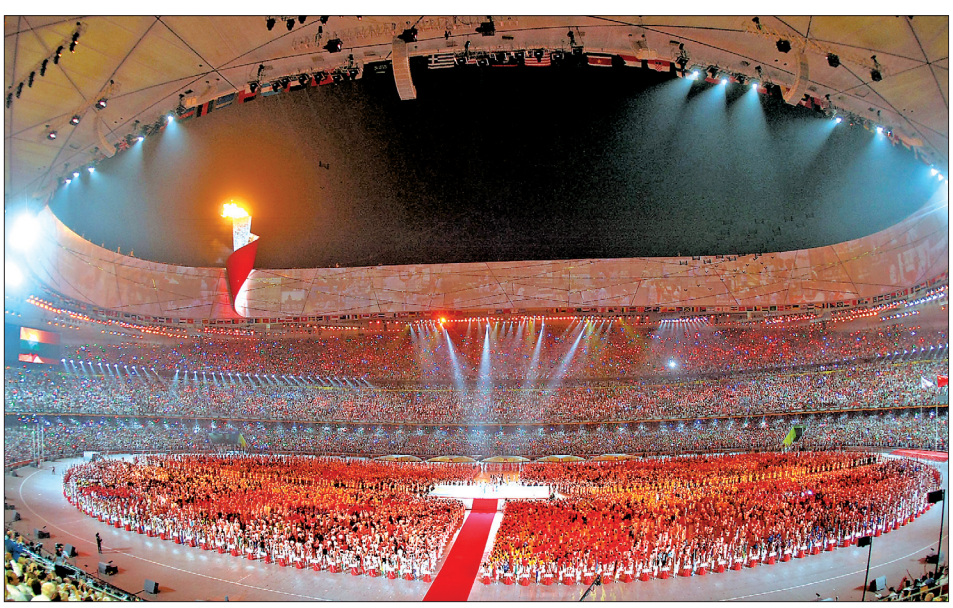
Left: Alexander Ovechkin became the first NHLer in 12 years to score 60 goals.

Left: Chantal Petitclerc won the Lou Marsh Trophy. Right: Phillies win World Series.

Left: Priscilla Lopes-Schliep of Canada jumps into Australian Sally McLellan's arms after winning bronze in the women's 100m hurdles in Beijing.

PHOTOS BY GETTY IMAGES

The Cheer is Here.



Left: Beijing's dazzling Olympic opening ceremony served notice to the world. Above: Spain wins Euro 2008.

Above: Canada's Carol Huynh celebrates her Olympic gold medal in freestyle wrestling. Right: The Calgary Stampeders share their Grey Cup win with their fans.

Ronaldo most searchable
Manchester United's Portuguese winger Cristiano Ronaldo was named Yahoo! Canada's most searched athlete of 2008. Sidney Crosby was third on the list. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Left: Tiger Woods rests his injured knee before winning the U.S. Open. Above: Jamaica's Usain Bolt breaks the world record in the Olympic 100m men's final.

Canada's Christine Nesbitt has won three golds on the World Cup speedskating circuit this year.

David Tyree's improbable fourth quarter catch set up the New York Giants stunning 17-14 upset of previously unbeaten New England in the Super Bowl.

THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF PEOPLE:
MORNING PEOPLE AND NOT-MORNING PEOPLE.
WE'VE GOT THE PERFECT GIFT FOR BOTH.

The Starbucks Card. It may be small, but it's as big a gift as you want it to be. Fill it as the situation warrants (best friend = $30, second-best friend = $15) and cross a name off the list, knowing that with every white mocha and blueberry muffin, the lucky recipient will think of you. No small feat for a wallet-sized gift.

STARBUCKS COFFEE

STARBUCKS CARD REWARDS Register your card online, and receive Starbucks Card Rewards. To join, visit starbucks.com/card.

© 2008 Starbucks Coffee Company. All rights reserved.

Above: Rafael Nadal collapses after winning a marathon seven-hour Wimbledon men's final against Roger Federer, a victory some call the greatest tennis match ever played. Right: Kris Draper hoists the Stanley Cup for Detroit.

Above: Kevin Garnett celebrates the Boston Celtics first NBA title in 22 years. Right: Michael Phelps broke a world record by winning eight gold medals in Beijing.

And the Oscar goes to ...
The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences will announce which films, actors and actresses are nominated for Oscars on the morning of Jan. 22. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Movies

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Marley and Me purely entertainment

Marley and **Me**

Director: David Frankel
Stars: Owen Wilson, Jennifer Aniston
Classification: PG
Rating: ●●●

ROBYN YOUNG
for Metro Canada

REVIEW Get out the tissues for Marley and Me: The film version has the same tear-jerking effects as the bestselling novel.

For those not familiar with journalist John Grogan's memoir chronicling his life with beloved Golden lab Marley, nothing much happens.

It's the simple story of a family and a dog and the everyday challenges they face as they grow together.

At the opening, Owen Wilson as Grogon has just married his sweetheart Jenny (Jennifer Aniston). They move from chilly Michigan to Florida where both land staff writing jobs at competing newspapers.

Life is good as their careers take off but soon enough, John begins to worry Jenny's biological clock might be ticking.

Quintessential-bachelor buddy Sebastian (Grey's Anatomy's Eric Dane) suggests a puppy might be enough to quench her motherly desires and John surprises Jenny with a trip to a breeder where they fall in love with "clearance puppy". Marley is the one, chubby little sausage out of the pack whose price has been knocked down for reasons that soon become clear.

He spends the next 14 years tearing apart the house, peeing on the floor, scattering dog food everywhere, chewing holes through the furniture, ripping down blinds and curtains, and generally wreaking havoc.

When John is made columnist Marley's antics provide years of fodder and the story continues, happily, with naughty but lovable Marley at the centre of it all as the couple adds three kids to their clan.

Marley and Me fits into that rare category of flicks that exists purely for the purpose of entertainment. It stays away from gratuitous violence and nudity; there are no vulgar jokes delivered simply for shock value.

The conclusion is expected but well-directed by David Frankel (The Devil Wears Prada) and the story wraps up as a touching love story between a man and his dog and the 14 years they spend together.

Aniston's performance is predictable: She plays the same wife, girlfriend, friend she always has. But Wilson plays a charmingly domesticated version of his usual kooky characters.

Kathleen Turner appears in a semi-comical cameo that could have been left out as a strict, husky-voiced dog trainer who insists no dog is "incorrigible" as Marley is described.

And Alan Arkin (Little Miss Sunshine) is hilarious as John's hard-nosed editor and mentor, time and again delivering the best lines of the film.

Owen Wilson and Jennifer Aniston star in Marley and Me.

On the web

• For Marley and Me showtimes, a trailer of the film, and to purchase tickets, visit metronews.ca/movies

Quote **of the week**

"I find Benjamin is about those universal things we all share — that 95 per cent that makes us all the same, wherever we are in the world. Our loves, our hopes, but also the loss that we all walk around with and hide very well, and the ultimate notion that we're all expendable. To me, it's a counterstatement to this divisive period we've been in, where we focused on the two, three, four, five per cent of ways in which we're different."

BRAD PITT TALKING ABOUT THE POSITIVE MESSAGE IN HIS NEW FILM, THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON — WHICH OPENED IN THEATRES ON CHRISTMAS DAY.
ROLLING STONE

Ingledew's
ULTIMATE SHOE SALE
for MEN & WOMEN
HAS STARTED!
Main Store 535 Granville St
Oakridge Centre
Park Royal North
Metropolis At Metrotown
Richmond Centre
Guildford Town Centre
Orchard Park ~Kelowna~
Willowbrook Centre ~Langley~
Hillside Centre ~Victoria~

Peter Travers, Rolling Stone
"PRIME VINTAGE EASTWOOD."
CLINT EASTWOOD
GRAN TORINO
VILLAGE ROADSHOW PICTURES
EXCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENT NOW PLAYING!
Check Theatre Directory or www.warnerbroscanada.com for Locations and Showtimes
14A COARSE LANGUAGE, VIOLENCE
FESTIVAL CINEMAS PARK
WWW.THEGRANTORINO.COM
Showtimes: 1:30pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:30pm
WARNER BROS. PICTURES
©2008 Warner Bros. Ent. All Rights Reserved

THE IKEA **WINTER SALE**
SAVE UP TO
50%

MUCH BETTER THAN GETTING THE KIDS TO HOLD THE TV FOR YOU.

LEKSVIK
TV bench in solid pine

$99*

was ~~$199~~
Dec. 26-28 only!

Chicken Marsala
served with rice, vegetables and a soft drink

$9.99

Served after 11 am.

IKEA RICHMOND
3200 Sweden Way
Phone: 604-273-2051
Hours:

Mon–Fri	10am–9pm
Saturday	9am–9pm
Sunday	10am–6pm

• Free shuttle bus every 1/2 hour from airport station (Saturday & Sunday).

www.IKEA.ca/richmond for details

IKEA COQUITLAM
1000 Lougheed Highway
Phone: 604-636-1000
Hours:

Mon–Fri	10am–9pm
Saturday	9am–9pm
Sunday	10am–6pm

www.IKEA.ca
Shop from home or office 1 866 866-IKEA

IKEA®

Love your home

*Offer valid from December 26-28, 2008. LIMIT 2 PER CUSTOMER. While supplies last. Selection may vary by store. No rain checks. © Inter IKEA Systems B.V. 2008.

Mark your calendars

The 66th annual Golden Globe Awards will air on NBC on Sunday, Jan. 11, while the 15th annual SAG Awards will air live on Sunday, Jan. 25, on TNT and TBS. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Movies

A CLASSIC; EXCELLENT; GOOD; FAIR; POOR

Movies that take you beyond the mat

InFocus

Richard Crouse

mrchaos33@hotmail.com

The great irony of good wrestling movies is that real, honest-to-God wrestlers rarely ever star in them.

This week Mickey Rourke gives a tour-de-force performance in The Wrestler as Randy the Ram, an over-the-hill wrestler; a once famous athlete capable of packing Madison Square Gardens, now a raggedly collection of shin splits, aching bones and broken spirit that should earn him an Oscar nod.

Aha, you say. Rourke used to be a boxer. Isn't that the same thing? Well, according to director Darren Aronofsky not so much.

"It's easy to think it was easy for Mickey to do this because of his experience in the ring but I think it was twice as hard because he had to unlearn everything," he said." In boxing the whole game is to hide your emotions and moves.

"When you do a punch in wrestling you want people in the bleachers to see it happening three minutes before it comes. So for Mickey to ham it up like that when he was taught to move as a boxer was a real challenge."

Rourke is perfect for the role; his face looks like he's been beaten up by an angry plastic surgeon, and his slouching walk belies years of extreme physical abuse. But not all actors to play wrestling's "faces" and "heels" have been well cast.

Flesh, a little known John Ford film from 1932, sees Wallace Beery — former silent movie and musical theater star — play a waiter-turned-wrestler who discovers his wife is having an affair. Even stranger casting than that was spindly Henry Winkler — The Fonz — as an unemployed actor who becomes a wrestling star (alongside Herve Villechaize) in the comedy The One and Only. Then there's Blood & Guts a 1978 film which sees aging wrestler Danny O'Neil, played by William Smith, wear a silver ten gallon top hat in the ring. To get the real deal on wrestling check out Beyond the Mat, a documentary from comedy writer and wrestling fan Barry Blaustien. His behind the scenes look at the pro circuit and its stars works on an almost Shakespearean level, revealing the tragedy, rage, humor, violence, intrigue, hucksterism and real human stories of the sport.

It's a movie that should be placed alongside Pumping Iron and When We Were Kings as movies that uncover the private side of sports entertainment. We all know wrestling is fake, but after seeing Beyond the Mat it seems a little more real.

Richard Crouse is the author of Son of the 100 Best Movies You've Never Seen and film critic for CTV's Canada AM.

Movie morsels

Australia

REVIEW Australia is a beautifully filmed study of a vast land that — as one character says — has "a strange power." What director Baz Luhrmann should fret over is the drawn-out narrative that plays to melodramatic excess. Set during the outbreak of World War II, Australia features Nicole Kidman as Lady Ashley, widow of a mysteriously murdered cattle ranch owner. When confronted by her husband's rival with a takeover bid, Ashley hires a maverick stockman (Hugh Jackman) and joins him on a massive cattle drive across the outback.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

Bedtime Stories

REVIEW Bedtime Stories brings Adam Sandler to Disney and the results are predictably placid. The film is far too predictable childish to appeal to the actor's core audience, coming off like the type of forgettable family comedy that would have starred Steve Guttenberg and gone straight to video 10 years ago.

Phil Brown/Metro Canada

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button

REVIEW Based on a tale by F. Scott Fitzgerald, Button tells the life story of a man who is born with the physicality of an 80-year-old but mysteriously ages in reverse meeting impossible challenges along the way. If that vaguely sounds a bit Forrest Gumpish, don't be surprised — Gump's Eric Roth penned this human epic too. There's a lot of talk about Brad Pitt possibly sneaking an Oscar, and he definitely gives the best performance of his career.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

Four Christmases

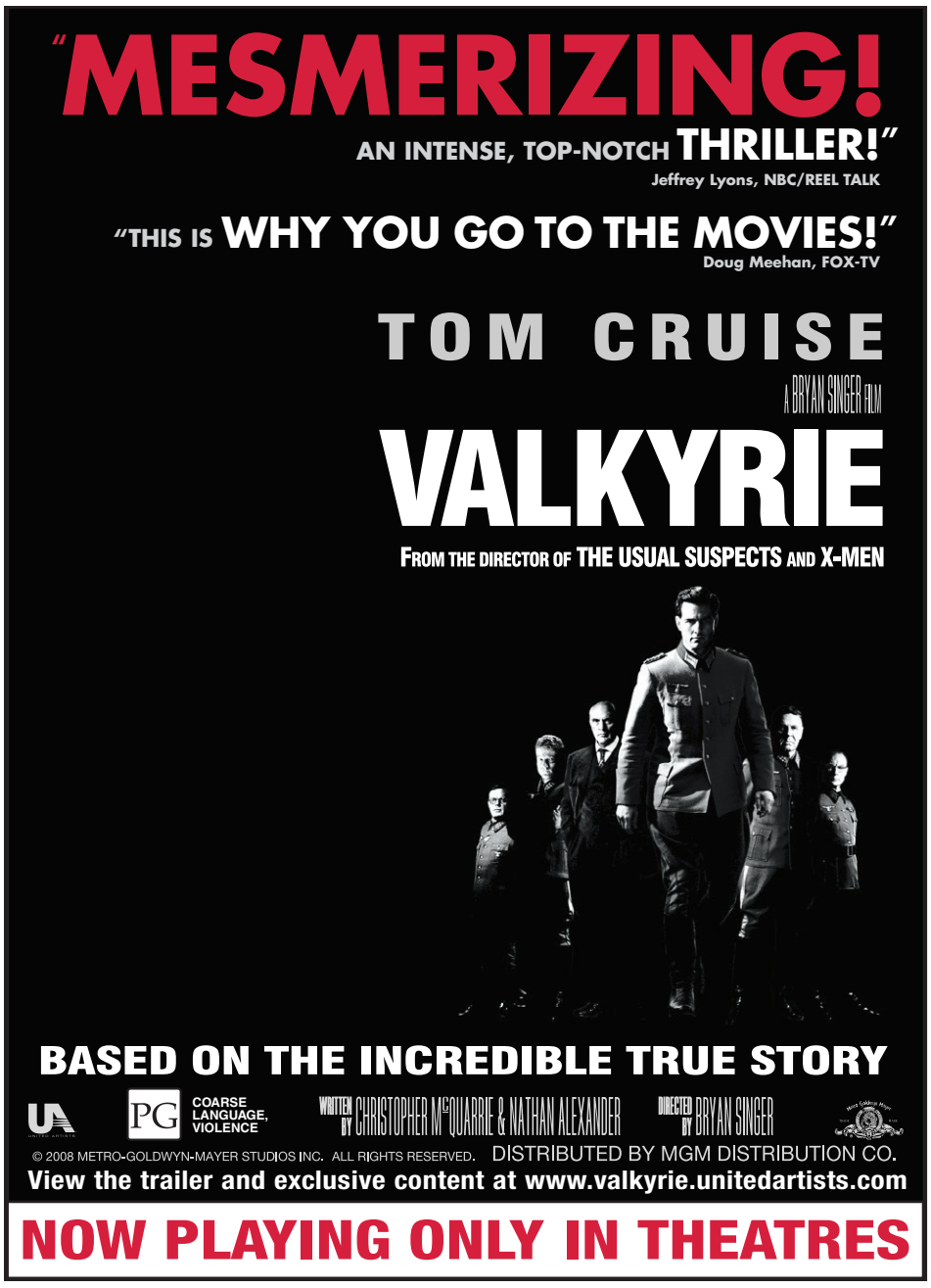
REVIEW Vince Vaughn and Reese Witherspoon star as a professional couple who always avoid their families during the holidays. After the film's worst plot contrivance traps them in the country and broadcasts their availability to their kin, the couple embark on their dreaded four Christmases.

Phil Brown/Metro Canada

Quantum of Solace

REVIEW The movie starts literally minutes after its predecessor, Casino Royale, ended, with a car chase that sums up director Marc Forster's brisk approach to the story. Action scenes are the meat of Bond movies. Most of what we see in Quantum of Solace is at least as good as the standards set in previous films; relentless, and more than a bit improbable. Daniel Craig's Bond is still an excellent incarnation of the character.

Rick McGinnis/Metro Canada



ROGERS

RICHMOND
180-8291 Alexandra Rd.
(604) 279-8563
Aberdeen Ctr.
(604) 279-9187
Admirality Centre
(604) 303-0308
Continental S/C
(604) 279-8868
10400 Bridgeport Rd.
(604) 244-0550
Empire Centre
(604) 276-9868
Richmond Centre
(604) 273-2203
Landsdowne Mall
(604) 247-2355
Aberdeen Centre
(604) 303-8811
SAANICH
401A-3989 Quadra St.
(250) 389 2818
SURREY
Central City
(604) 583-7000
Guildford Town Centre
(604) 951-9399
Nordel Crossing
(604) 543-8886
Semiahmoo Mall
(604) 536-1010
Strawberry Hill
Shopping Centre
(604) 502-7600
Khalsa Business Mall
7-8430 128th St.
(604) 572-9955
820-3041-152nd St.
(604) 531-2500
101-7320 King George Hwy.
(604) 599-5522
Cloverdale Crossing Mall
#701-6476 176th St.
(778) 571 0776
#201 – 12788 76A Ave.
(778) 571 0776
500-18696 Fraser Hwy.
(604) 576 6360
SQUAMISH
3B-40437 Tantalus Rd.
(604) 892-1122
VANCOUVER
Bental Centre Mall
(604) 602-0968
Champlain Heights
7058 Kerr St.
(604) 433-4991
155-139 Keefer St.
(604) 683-8283
6510 Fraser St.
(604) 325-6665
1807 Burrard St.
(604) 736-3326
Oakridge Centre
(604) 267-1011
City Square
(604) 876-0888
208 Keefer St.
(604) 688-3883
5759 West Blvd.
(604) 267-6383
2691 West Broadway
(604) 736-1813
920 Davie St.
(604) 684-5981
1022 Mainland
(604) 608-2448
UBC-2160 Western Parkway
(604) 221-5505
601 Robson St.
(604) 682-4333
1295 Robson St.
(604) 685-8518
1093 Robson St.
(604) 628-1388
Kingsgate Mall
(604) 879-1003
VICTORIA
153-2401C Millstream Road
(250) 391-0885
Tillicum Mall
(250) 386-2282
Westshore Mall
(250) 478-3912
1306 Douglas St.
(250) 389-0818
766 Hillside Ave.
(250) 380-1011
3388 Douglas St.
(250) 385-8000
Shelbourne Plaza
(250) 477-5999
153-2401C Millstream Rd.
(250) 391 0885
WEST VANCOUVER
Park Royal North
(604) 921-1488
Park Royal South
(604) 921-4880
WHISTLER
4338 Main St.
(604) 932-2021

ROGERS plus

ABBOTSFORD
Abbotsford Village Shopping Centre
(604) 852-5863
Mt. Lehman
(604) 856-0151
Clearbrook
(604) 854-1440
BURNABY
Kensington
(604) 291-9068
North Road
(604) 421-7500
Royal Oak
(604) 451-0233
Old Orchard Shopping Centre
(604) 433-6125
Brentwood Mall
(604) 320-0789
CHILLIWACK
Salish Plaza
(604) 792-7609
COQUITLAM
Coquitlam Plaza
(604) 464-4222
Austin Avenue Mall
(604) 931-5332
Westwood Plateau Village
(604) 464-5862
Como Lake Village
(604) 931-8104
COURTENAY
Courtenay Crossing Mall
(250) 334-3070
DELTA
Sunshine Hills Shopping Centre
(604) 591-7767
LANGLEY
Fraser Park Shopping
(604) 530-3422
Willowbrook Park Shopping Centre
(604) 533-8555
MAPLE RIDGE
Pacific Colanade
(604) 463-2231
Westgate
(604) 460-6527
MISSION
Lougheed Mission Plaza
(604) 820-4869
NEW WESTMINSTER
Columbia Square
(604) 524-1100
Royal Square Mall
(604) 515-8213
NORTH VANCOUVER
Marine Drive
(604) 986-7500
Lonsdale
(604) 980-7291
Capilano Mall
(604) 983-9744
PORT COQUITLAM
Prairie Mall
(604) 552-3316
Shaughnessy Station
(604) 941-2423
RICHMOND
Francis
(604) 241-0711
Blundell
(604) 275-4848
St. Albans
(604) 244-8446
Garden City Shopping Centre
(604) 244-7800
Ironwood Plaza
(604) 241-8441
SURREY
Scott Road
(604) 599-0099
Guilford
(604) 588-8900
Newton
(604) 599-8880
Evergreen
(604) 581-2287
Cedar Plaza
(604) 581-7884
Peninsula Village Shopping Centre
(604) 535-8828
Surrey Place
(604) 584-7274
Clover Square Village
(604) 574-6341
TSAWWASSEN
Bayside Shopping Centre
(604) 943-9940
VANCOUVER
Arbutus
(604) 676-7015
Davie
(604) 687-8000
Slocan
(604) 254-9555
Kerrisdale
(604) 266-6097
Granville
(604) 266-1500
Jervis
(604) 669-7377
Kitsilan
(604) 732-5007
Oak Street
(604) 731-1699
Victoria Square
(604) 301-1836
Pacific Centre
(604) 801-5292
VICTORIA
Quadra
(250) 361-4949
Canwest Centre – Eastgate
(250) 478-8556
McKenzie
(250) 479-4510
Shelbourne
(250) 472-7522
Gorge
(250) 360-0388
Mayfair Shopping Centre
(250) 382-4196
Bay Centre
(250) 385-6151
Hillside Mall
(250) 370-4339
WEST VANCOUVER
Park Royal Shopping Centre
(604) 926-2623
Caulfield
(604) 925-6470
WHISTLER
Whistler Marketplace
(604) 938-4503
WHITE ROCK
White Rock Plaza
(604) 538-5578

HOW YOUR KIDS HOPE THE HOLIDAYS UNFOLD

THE NEW BLACKBERRY PEARL FLIP

ONLY **$49.99** ON SELECT 3-YEAR PLANS[1]

- The only BlackBerry that flips
- Easy SureType® keyboard
- Available in black or pink

BlackBerry

ALL THE BEST

BLACKBERRY® CURVE™ 8320 | BLACKBERRY® BOLD™ | BLACKBERRY® PEARL™ 8120

EXCLUSIVELY AT ROGERS

rogers.com/perfectgift

CANADA'S MOST RELIABLE NETWORK†

ROGERS™

THE SOURCE BY CIRCUIT CITY | ROGERS plus | ROGERS VIDEO | WIRELESSWAVE | GLENTEL | FUTURE SHOP | BEST BUY

Offer subject to change without notice. **1** With subscription to new 3-year Voice and Data plan having minimum $35 monthly service fee. Early cancellation fees apply. †Most reliable network claim refers to call clarity and dropped calls test results as conducted by Rogers and a recognized third-party research company in the majority of urban Canadian centres within the Rogers Wireless GSM footprint, comparing voice services of major wireless providers. BlackBerry,® RIM,® Research In Motion,® SureType® and related trademarks, names and logos are the property of Research In Motion Limited and are registered and/or used in the U.S. and countries around the world.

™Trademarks of Rogers Communications Inc. used under license, or of Rogers Wireless. All other brand names and logos are trademarks of their respective owners. © 2008 Rogers Wireless.

Cineplex | Empire | AMC | Alliance Atlantis | ATNY | Independent

Screen Times

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., DEC. 26 TO THURS., JAN. 1. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Vancouver

OMNIMAX THEATRE SCIENCE WORLD
1455 Quebec St., 604-443-7443

The Alps (STC) Fri-Thu 2

Journey Into Amazing Caves (STC) Fri-Thu 12

The Light Before Christmas (STC) Fri-Thu 11-1-3-5 Fri-Sat 7:30

Pulse: A Stomp Odyssey (STC) Fri-Thu 4 Fri-Sat 8:30

CN IMAX THEATRE
201-999 Canada Place, 604-682-4629

The IMAX Nutcracker (STC) Fri-Thu 2-5-7

The Polar Express: An IMAX 3D Experience (G) Fri-Tue 12-3-8 Wed 12-3 Thu 12-3-8

Santa vs. the Snowman (STC) Fri-Wed 11-6 Thu 6

DUNBAR THEATRE
4555 Dunbar Street, 604-222-2991

Listings not available at press time.

FIFTH AVENUE CINEMAS
2110 Burrard Street, 604-734-7469

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4:30-8

Doubt (G) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:40-7:10-9:35

The Reader (18A) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:20-7-9:45

Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:10-6:50-9:25

GRANVILLE
855 Granville St., 604-684-4000

Body of Lies (18A) Fri-Thu 1:35-4:15-6:55-9:35

Bolt (G) Fri-Thu 1:55-4:25-6:45

Changeling (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:45

A Christmas Tale (French w/e.s.t.) (PG) Fri-Thu 9:10

JCVD (PG) Fri-Thu 9:15

Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa (G) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:10-7:10

Repo! The Genetic Opera (18A) Fri-Thu 1:50-4:20-7-9:20

Role Models (14A) Fri-Thu 1:40-4-7:05-9:25

Twilight (PG) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:05-6:50-9:30

HOLLYWOOD THEATRE
3123 W. Broadway, 604-738-3211
hollywoodtheatre.ca

Eagle Eye (PG) Fri 9:20 Sat-Sun 3:20-9:20 Mon-Thu 9:20

Ghost Town (PG) Fri 7:30 Sat-Sun 1:30-7:30 Mon-Thu 7:30

OAKRIDGE
650 West 41st Ave., 604-263-1944

Bedtime Stories (G) DTS Digital Fri-Thu 1:20-4:10-7-9:30

Marley & Me (G) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 1-3:50-6:45-9:40

Yes Man (PG) DTS Digital Fri-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:10-9:45

CINESITE/TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

Klaatu (Keanu Reeves) prepares to turn the tables on a polygraph operator (David Richmond-Peck) in The Day the Earth Stood Still, which is currently in theatres.

PACIFIC CINÉMATHÈQUE
1131 Howe Street, 604-688-3456
cinematheque.bc.ca

Listings not available at press time.

PARK THEATRE
3440 Cambie Street, 604-876-2747

Gran Torino (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4-7-9:30

RIDGE THEATRE
3131 Arbutus Street, 604-738-6311

Waltz With Bashir (R) Fri-Thu 2-4-7-9

RIO ON BROADWAY
1660 E. Broadway, 604-878-Film
riotheatre.ca

The Beyond (STC) Fri 12

Black Sabbath (STC) Fri

Monty Python and the Holy Grail (STC) Sat

Monty Python's Life of Brian (STC) Sat 12

The Spirit (14A) Fri-Thu 2:45-5-7:15-9:30

SCOTIABANK THEATRE VANCOUVER
900 Burrard St., 604-630-1407

Listings not available at press time.

TINSELTOWN
International Village, 88 West Pender, 3rd floor, 604-806-0799
cinemark.com

Listings not available at press time.

VANCITY THEATRE
Vancouver International Film Centre
1181 Seymour Street, 604-683-Film
vifc.org

The Godfather (STC) Fri-Tue 4-7:30 Thu 4-7:30

VAN EAST CINEMA
2290 Commercial Drive, 604-251-1313
vaneast.com

Seven Pounds (PG) Fri 7-9:25 Sat-Sun 4:35-7-9:25 Mon-Tue 7-9:25

North Shore

ESPLANADE 6
200 West Esplanade, 604-983-2762

Bedtime Stories (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:50-4:30-7:20-9:50

Bolt in Disney Digital 3D (G) Digital Presentation Fri-Thu 1:30-4:10

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:40-4:20-8

Quantum of Solace (14A) Fri-Thu 7:15-9:55

Valkyrie (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:50-7:10-10

Yes Man (PG) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:15-4-7-9:40

www.IWantMyHolidayBonus.com
BRITISH COLUMBIA Honda DEALERS www.BCHonda.com
HONDA

5 GOLDEN GLOBE® NOMINATIONS
BEST PICTURE (Drama)
BEST DIRECTOR David Fincher
BEST ACTOR (Drama) Brad Pitt
BEST SCREENPLAY Screen story by Eric Roth and Robin Swicord; Screenplay by Eric Roth
BEST ORIGINAL SCORE Alexandre Desplat

TIME
"A SPRAWLING, ENTHRALLING MOVIE. Opens a window onto our common mortality, where the very young and the very old are similarly dependent and the years in between are a precious gift." – Richard Corliss

ELLE
"ONE OF THE BEST MOVIES OF THE DECADE. At once familiar and like nothing ever seen on screen before. The chemistry between Brad Pitt and Cate Blanchett is nothing short of glorious." – Karen Durbin

Newsweek
"BRAD PITT GIVES ONE OF THE SUBTLEST, MOST TOUCHING PERFORMANCES OF HIS CAREER. Lyrical, original, deeply felt." – David Ansen

BRAD PITT CATE BLANCHETT

The Curious Case Of BENJAMIN BUTTON

PARAMOUNT PICTURES AND WARNER BROS. PICTURES PRESENT A KENNEDY/MARSHALL PRODUCTION A DAVID FINCHER FILM BRAD PITT CATE BLANCHETT "THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON"
TARAJI P. HENSON JULIA ORMOND JASON FLEMYNG ELIAS KOTEAS AND TILDA SWINTON MUSIC BY ALEXANDRE DESPLAT EDITED BY KIRK BAXTER ANGUS WALL PRODUCED BY KATHLEEN KENNEDY FRANK MARSHALL CEÁN CHAFFIN
FROM THE SHORT STORY BY F. SCOTT FITZGERALD SCREEN STORY BY ERIC ROTH AND ROBIN SWICORD SCREENPLAY BY ERIC ROTH DIRECTED BY DAVID FINCHER
PG COARSE LANGUAGE, VIOLENCE, SEXUALLY SUGGESTIVE SCENES
benjaminbutton.com SOUNDTRACK ALBUM ON CONCORD RECORDS

NOW PLAYING IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE
CHECK THEATRE DIRECTORIES FOR LOCATIONS AND SHOWTIMES

EXPERIENCE THE MOST EXTRAORDINARY STORY OF THE HOLIDAY SEASON

SEVEN NAMES. SEVEN STRANGERS. ONE SECRET.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS
WILL SMITH SEVEN POUNDS

COLUMBIA PICTURES PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH RELATIVITY MEDIA AN OVERBROOK ENTERTAINMENT ESCAPE ARTISTS PRODUCTION A FILM BY GABRIELE MUCCINO "SEVEN POUNDS"
ROSARIO DAWSON MICHAEL EALY WITH BARRY PEPPER AND WOODY HARRELSON MUSIC BY ANGELO MILLI EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS DAVID CROCKETT DAVID BLOOMFIELD KEN STOVITZ DOMENICO PROCACCI WRITTEN BY GRANT NIEPORTE
PRODUCED BY TODD BLACK JAMES LASSITER JASON BLUMENTHAL STEVE TISCH WILL SMITH DIRECTED BY GABRIELE MUCCINO
PG VIOLENCE
SevenPounds-movie.ca Soundtrack on Varèse Sarabande

NOW PLAYING Check Theatre Directory or SonyPicturesReleasing.ca for Locations and Showtimes

Plus up to **50% off**

Select Books, Gifts and Calendars†

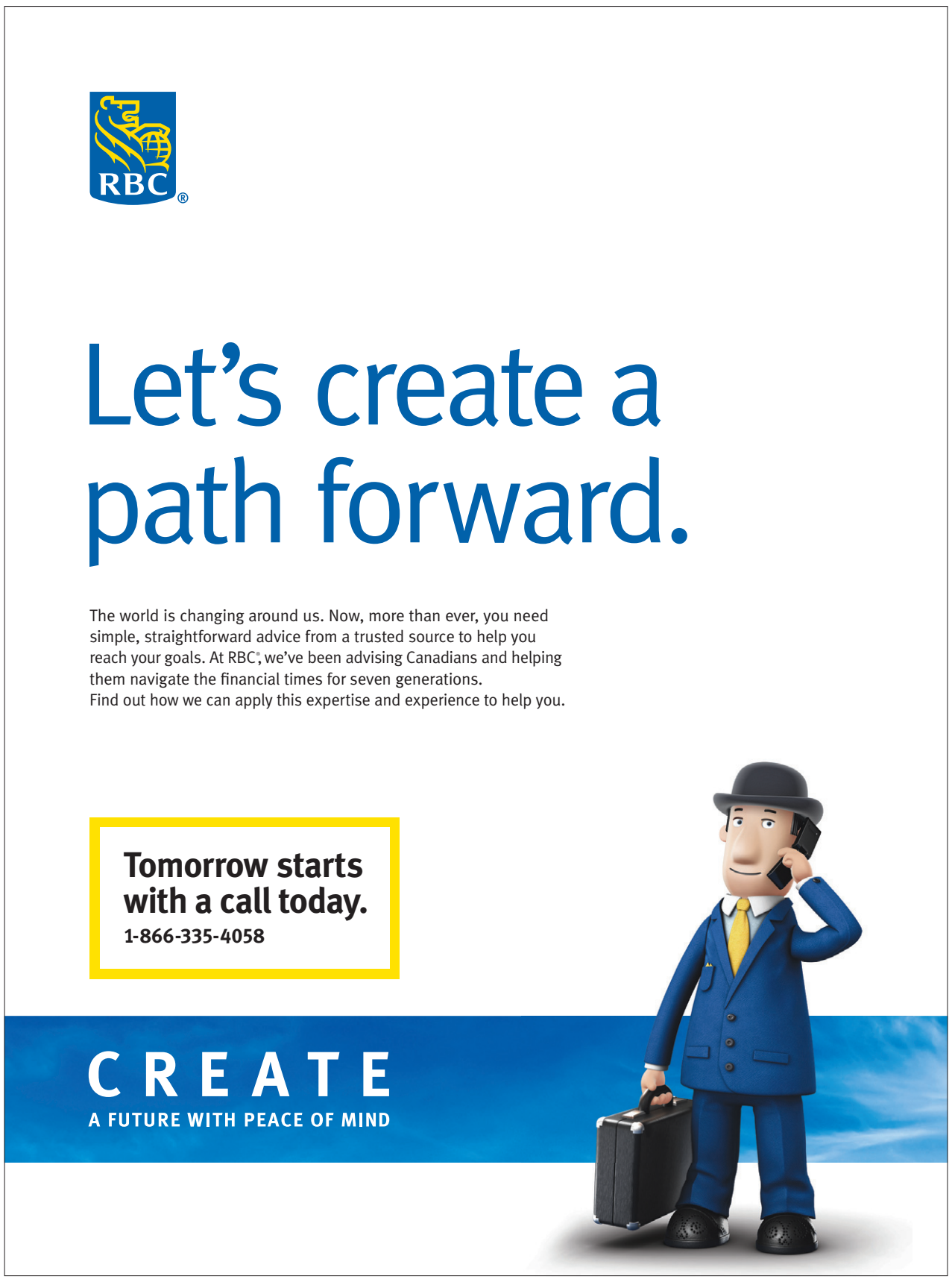
Chapters | Indigo | COLES

*30% offer valid on regular priced in-stock hardcovers, excluding mini-books and previously discounted and/or purchased books, for a limited time only or while quantities last. Not valid in conjunction with the regular irewards discount.

† Up to 50% off promotion is valid on in store purchases. Not valid on kiosk or online orders. Prices and selection may vary by store. Prices and discounts are subject to change without notice. See store for details.

The party across all time zones
For a full list of events on what's hot and happening in Vancouver and across the world for New Year's Eve. check out www.clubzone.com/nye. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Going Out



Mix of Six
HOT & HAPPENING NEW YEAR'S EVENTS

New Year's 2009 at Telus World of Science
When: From 9 p.m. to 3 a.m.
Located at Science World, one of Vancouver's most recognizable landmarks, this New Year's party is expected to draw more than 1,000 people. Last New Year's party sold out in advance. It features two rooms of music on two different levels. General admission $150, ages 19+.

New Year's Eve 2009 Mardi Gras Party
When: From 7 p.m. to 3 a.m.
Where: Royale Banquet Hall, 2122 Kingsway Ave.
A Mardi Gras-style countdown with masks, hats, balloons, champagne and more. With VJ CB Shaw. Silver Package for $80 and Gold Package for $120. Free parking at the newly renovated Royal Banquet Hall. Ages 19+.

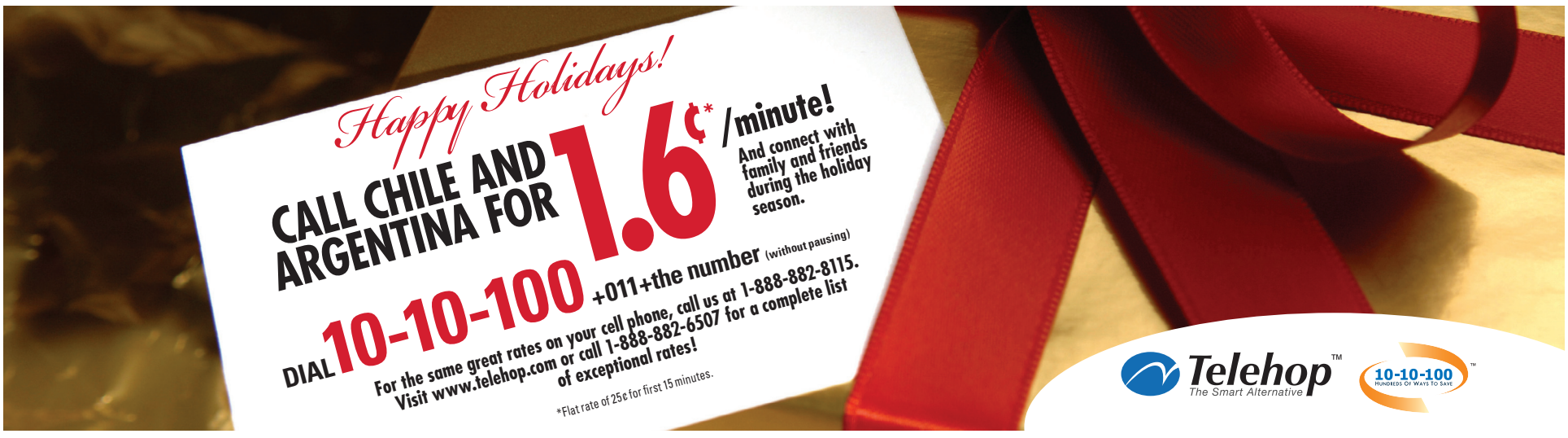
Solid New Year's Eve 2009
When: 10 p.m. to 8 a.m.
Where: PNE Coliseum, 100 North Renfrew St., Vancouver
Billed as the largest New Year's event in Western Canada, this all-night party will showcase international talent in different genres of music. The recommended dress code is wearing white. Tickets are $95. All ages.

Vancouver's Largest Singles New Year's Eve Party
When: 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Where: Cats Socialhouse, 1540 Old Bridge St. (Granville Island), Vancouver,
This New Year's party will host 200 singles, hors d'oeuvres, complimentary champagne, party favours, door prizes, and a grand prize of an all-expenses paid two-week adventure vacation. $69.99 until Dec. 26 and $100 at the door (if available).

New Year's Dance Cruise aboard the Queen of Diamonds
When: 7:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.
Where: 750 Pacific Blvd., Vancouver
The cruise includes party favours, appetizers and champagne. Boards at 7:30 p.m., and leaves at 8:30 p.m. Tickets to this event are $92. Ages 19+.

New Year's Eve at Gossip Night Club
When: 8 p.m. to 3 a.m.
Where: 750 Pacific Blvd., Vancouver
This party at Vancouver's largest club includes complimentary champagne and party favours, a balloon drop and confetti cannon at midnight, an acrobatic performance by circus aerials, and an assortment of DJs. General admission is $70. Ages 19+.

METRO VANCOUVER



MORE THRILLING LESS FILLING

MORE CHOICE LESS COMPROMISE. LIVE BIG. DRIVE SMALL.

ALL NEW 2009 PONTIAC VIBE

OWN IT FOR

CASH PURCHASE PRICE		BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT		PURCHASE FINANCING
$16,998†	OR	$118** WITH		0%*
INCLUDES FREIGHT AND PDI		WITH $1,595 DOWN		FOR 60 MONTHS

46 MPG HIGHWAY▲

Vibe GT shown.

The Pontiac Vibe achieved a top 3 finish in the Canadian Driver.com 50-litre Challenge™ for fuel efficiency.¥

AJAC Automobile Journalists Association of Canada

Best New Small Car over $18,000

- 1.8L DOHC engine
- 5-speed manual transmission
- Anti-lock braking system with traction control
- 4-speaker CD stereo with MP3 input jack
- StabiliTrak™ electronic stability control system
- OnStar® with 1-year Safe & Sound plan£

36/46 mpg 7.8/6.2 L/100km (City/Hwy)▲

★★★★★Highest Possible U.S. Government Frontal Crash Safety Rating△

ALL NEW 2009 PONTIAC G3 WAVE

OWN IT FOR

CASH PURCHASE PRICE		BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT		PURCHASE FINANCING
$11,698†	OR	$98** WITH		2.9%*
INCLUDES FREIGHT AND PDI		WITH $3,035 DOWN		FOR 60 MONTHS Effective Finance APR: 13.4%

- 1.6L DOHC engine
- 5-speed manual transmission
- CD stereo with MP3 input jack
- 60/40 split-folding rear seat
- Frontal airbags w/passenger sensing system
- Theft deterrent system with immobilizer

★★★★★Highest Possible U.S. Government Frontal Crash Safety Rating△

50 MPG HIGHWAY▲

36/50 mpg 7.9/5.7 L/100km (City/Hwy)▲

2009 PONTIAC G5 XFE

OWN IT FOR

CASH PURCHASE PRICE		BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT		PURCHASE FINANCING
$13,398†	OR	$108** WITH		0%*
INCLUDES FREIGHT AND PDI		WITH $2,195 DOWN		FOR 60 MONTHS Effective Finance APR: 8.1%

- 155hp 2.2L ECOTEC engine
- 5-speed Getrag manual transmission
- CD stereo with MP3 input jack
- Theft deterrent system with immobilizer

The new G5 XFE gets up to 10% better fuel economy than ever before.

52 MPG HIGHWAY▲

35/52 mpg 8.0/5.4 L/100km (City/Hwy)▲

PONTIAC BUICK GMC

GM Canada

THE BEST COVERAGE IN CANADA
5 YEARS / 160,000 KM◊
- POWERTRAIN LIMITED WARRANTY
- ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE
- COURTESY TRANSPORTATION

◊ WHICHEVER COMES FIRST. EXCLUDES MEDIUM-DUTY TRUCKS. SEE DEALER FOR LIMITED WARRANTY DETAILS.

STUDENT BONUS.ca GM pays the first 2 monthly payments♦

Get $750 for your old car☆ | car heaven where old cars come to a good end

For eligibility requirements visit carheaven.ca

Visit bcpontiacdealers.ca for more details

NOW AT YOUR BC PONTIAC BUICK GMC DEALERS. bcpontiacdealers.ca ‡Offer applies to the purchase of 2009 Pontiac Vibe FWD 1SM, equipped as described. †Offers apply to the cash purchase of 2009 Pontiac G3 Wave 5-Door 1SM/2009 Pontiac G5 Coupe or Sedan 1SP, equipped as described. Cash purchase prices reflect discounts or other incentives which are only available on cash purchase offers. By selecting lease or financing offers, consumers will be foregoing such discounts and incentives which may results in higher effective interest rates. See your participating GM dealers for conditions and details. *Purchase financing available on select 2009 models on approved GMAC credit only. Down payment and/or trade may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. Example: $10,000 at 0% for 60 months, the bi-weekly payment is $76.92, cost of borrowing is $0, total obligation is $10,000. **Offers apply to 2009 Pontiac Vibe FWD 1SM/G3 Wave 5-Door 1SM/G5 Coupe or Sedan 1SP, equipped as described. Based on a 60/60/60 month term. A down payment of $1,595/$3,035/$2,195 is required for the $118/$98/$108 bi-weekly payment at 0%/2.9%/0%. Total obligation is $16,998/$15,839/$16,298. Cost of borrowing is $0/$891/$0. Offers with 0% purchase financing are unconditionally interest free. ‡/†/**Freight included. License, insurance, registration, PPSA, administration fees and taxes not included. Offers apply as indicated to 2009 new or demonstrator models, dealer order or trade may be necessary, and applies only to qualified retail customers in BC/Yukon. Dealers are free to set individual prices. Limited time offer which may not be combined with other offers. See your participating GM dealers for conditions and details. ◊Warranty based on 5 years or 160,000 km, whichever comes first. Excludes Medium Duty Trucks. See dealer for conditions and details. £Service contract required. OnStar® uses existing emergency service providers as well as cellular and satellite technologies. Vehicle electrical system needs to be operating for features to function properly. ♦GMCL will pay the first two months' GMAC finance payments for finance terms up to 60 months only, paid up to a maximum monthly finance payment of $400 (tax included). Offer applicable to equal monthly payment finance agreements with GMAC and subject to GMAC credit approval. Program not available to recipients of any previous GM student/graduate offer. Visit www.gmstudentbonus.ca for more details. ΔDonated vehicles must be licensed and insured for the previous, consecutive six (6) months. For complete eligibility information go to www.carheaven.ca/utilities/legal.aspx. ¥U.S. Government star ratings are part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (NCAP). The 2009 Pontiac Wave 5-Door and 2009 Pontiac Vibe received a 5-Star rating for the driver and front passenger in the frontal crash test. For more information on safety ratings, go to www.safercar.gov. ▲Estimated 2009 ratings, based on GM testing in accordance with approved Transport Canada testing methods. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. ▼More information on the Canadian Driver.com 50-Litre Challenge™ can be found online at: www.canadiandriver.com/50litre.

Feast day
On the sixth day of Kwanzaa, Kuumba (creativity), there is a great feast or Karamu... Some favourite dishes of the Karamu are stewed snapper, Congo rice and peas, fried chicken, baked potato pie, corn bread, calaloo and vegetable ital stew. **SECTION15.CA**

Food

The basic Joloff Rice recipe (with bacon or ham in place of chicken) is identical to, and probably the origin of, a dish called Red Rice in the Southeastern United States (and usually called Spanish Rice in the rest of the continent).
CONGOCOOKBOOK.COM

EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

Dishing up a taste of Africa

À la carte

Joloff Chicken and Rice

Food is part of any celebration. This well-known, colourful West African dish is often served on special occasions. I made this with parboiled (not instant) rice, but other long grain rice should work well. I did not find ground dried shrimps. Instead, add ½ tsp (2 ml) salt to the rice. Makes 6 servings.

INGREDIENTS:
- 6 skinless, boneless chicken breasts
- 2 garlic cloves, finely minced
- 1 tsp (5 ml) dried thyme leaves
- pinch each salt and pepper
- 1 to 2 tbsp (15-30 ml) vegetable oil
- 14 oz (398 ml) can diced tomatoes (or half a 28 oz/796 ml)
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) tomato paste
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 cups (500 ml) chicken broth
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) ground dried shrimps or crayfish (optional)
- 1-1/2 cups (375 ml) long grain rice
- 1 fresh green chilli, seeded and finely chopped
- Fresh or dried thyme, to garnish

Joloff Chicken and Rice

METHOD:

Rub chicken with garlic, thyme, salt and pepper. Heat 1 tbsp (15 ml) oil in a large saucepan or Dutch oven over medium-high heat. Cook chicken (in batches) until browned on both sides; transfer to a plate, adding more oil if needed.

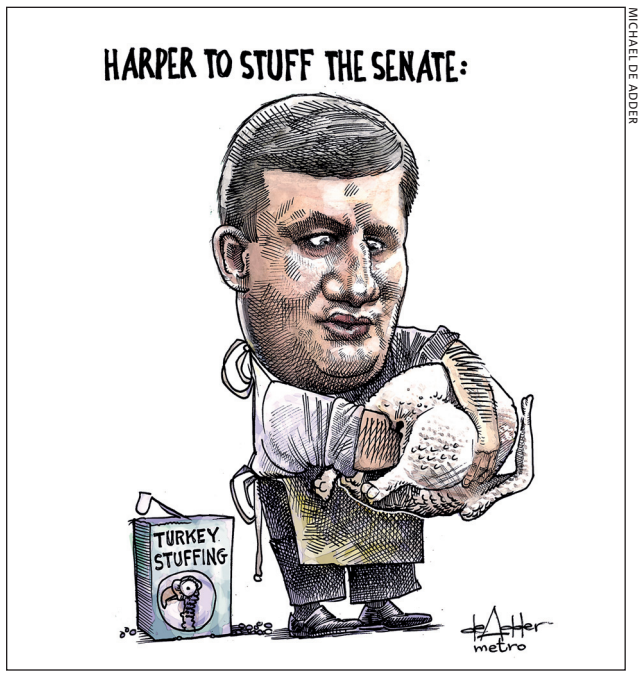
Add tomatoes, tomato paste and onion to pan. Cook over medium-high heat until tomatoes have thickened somewhat, about 5 minutes. Add broth and dried shrimps, if using, and bring to a boil.

Measure out 1 cup (250 ml) tomato cooking liquid. Add enough water to make 3 cups (750 ml) and pour over rice in a separate saucepan (add salt). Bring rice mixture to a boil, reduce heat and simmer until rice is tender and liquid is absorbed, 10 to 15 minutes. Set aside, covered to keep warm.

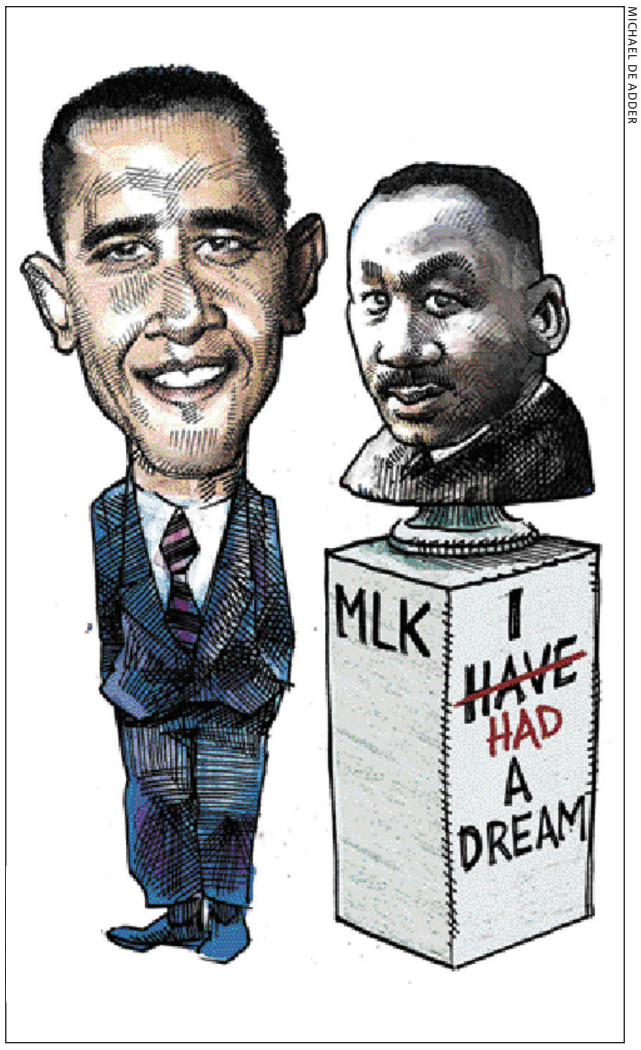
Meanwhile, add green chilli to remaining tomato cooking liquid. Add chicken to pan, covering chicken with sauce. Simmer until chicken is cooked through, about 15 minutes. Transfer chicken pieces to a warm serving plate, cover to keep warm. Increase heat on sauce to high and cook until nicely thickened, about 5 minutes. Serve chicken with rice and sauce. Garnish with thyme.

Barb Holland is a professional home economist and food writer who believes in shopping locally and in season.

Metro's Best Cartoons of 2008

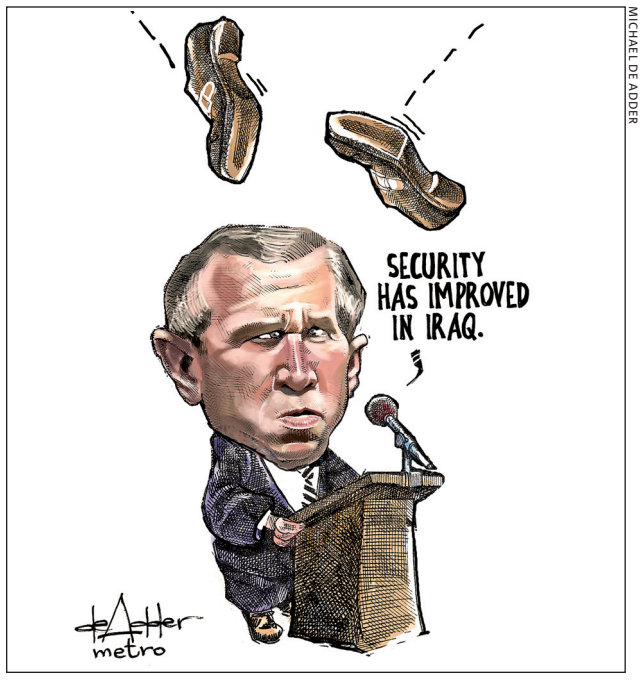


MICHAEL DE ADDER



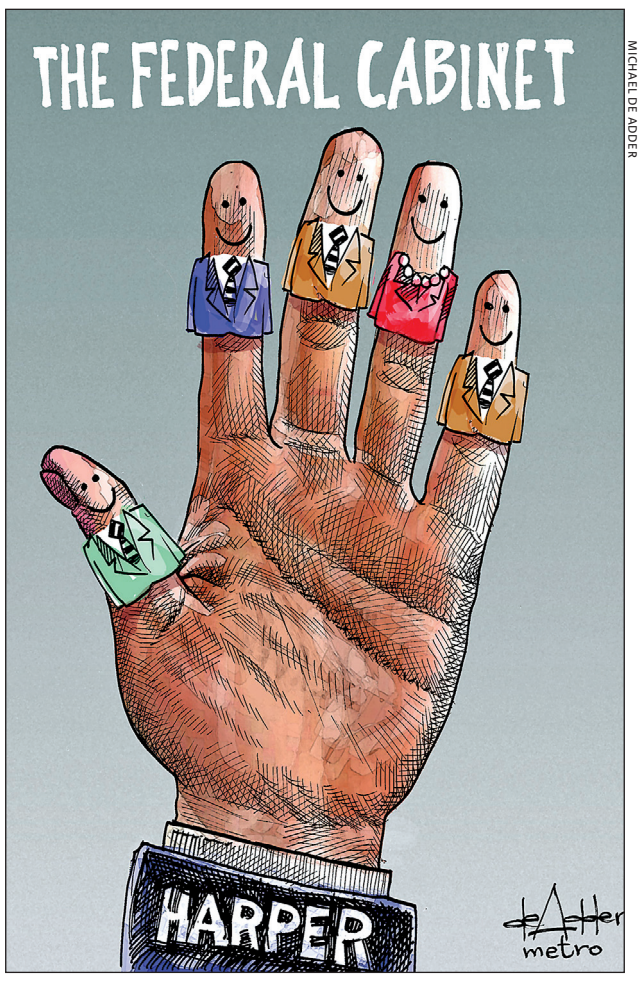
MICHAEL DE ADDER

MICHAEL DE ADDER

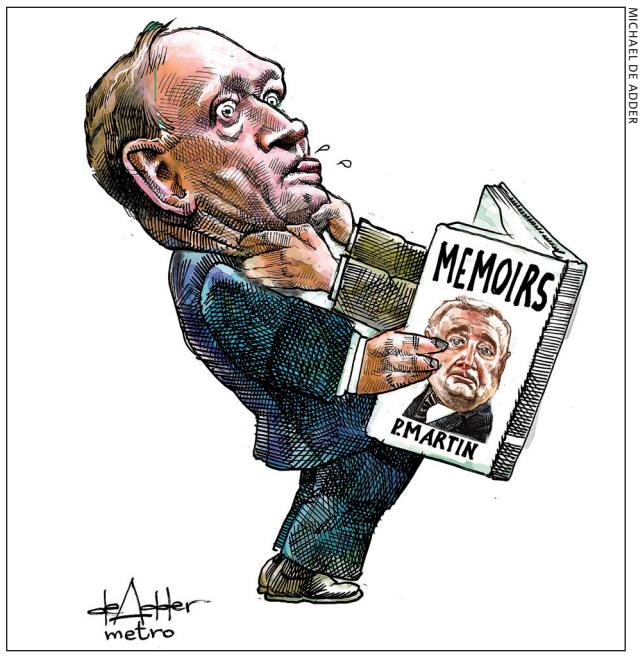


MICHAEL DE ADDER

MICHAEL DE ADDER



MICHAEL DE ADDER



MICHAEL DE ADDER

MICHAEL DE ADDER

NOW THROUGH JANUARY 2ND, 2009 ONLY

EXCLUSIVE ONLINE HONDA OFFER

IWantMyHolidayBonus.com

BRITISH COLUMBIA Honda DEALERS
www.BCHonda.com

ABBOTSFORD
THE HONDA WAY
604-857-1430 D8292

CHILLIWACK
MARV JONES
PERFORMANCE HONDA
604-792-2724 D8441

PORT MOODY/ COQUITLAM
WESTWOOD HONDA
604-461-0633 D5933

WHITE ROCK
WHITE ROCK HONDA
604-536-2111 D6911

LANGLEY
JONKER HONDA
604-530-6281 D8825

MAPLE RIDGE/ PITT MEADOWS
MARV JONES HONDA
604-465-5464 D5108

VANCOUVER
CARTER HONDA
604-736-2821 D7713

VANCOUVER
KINGSWAY HONDA
604-873-3676 D8508

VANCOUVER
VANCOUVER HONDA
604-324-6666 D8185

SURREY
SURREY HONDA
604-583-7421 D10482

RICHMOND
RICHMOND HONDA
604-638-0497 D5597A

BURNABY SOUTH/ NEW WEST
MIDDLEGATE HONDA
604-525-4667 D7825

BURNABY NORTH
HAPPY HONDA
604-294-2111 D5692

NORTH & WEST VANCOUVER
PACIFIC HONDA
604-984-0331 D5583

HONDA